

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

**20 years on**  
The condition of America's black population two decades after Martin Luther King said: "I have a dream..."

**Two weeks off**  
Friday page reports on what children really think of the holidays their parents choose.

**Winning ways**  
The image that means President Reagan will win a second term in 1984.

**Losing touch**  
Are Canada's Liberals preparing to dump Prime Minister Trudeau?

**Home thoughts...**  
How the Leicester Building Society discovered marketing with a capital "M".

**...from abroad**  
The New Zealand tourists face England in the fourth Test; the European Swimming Championships in Rome.

## Kidnappers kill leading protester

The owner of the Argentine magazine *Quidam*, Señor Guillermo Patrón Kelly, a leading human rights protester, was kidnapped here yesterday and later found dead, unofficial sources said. An underground group, "Free Argentina", claimed responsibility.

## Way clear for nuclear sell-off

The way is clear for the privatisation of British Nuclear Fuels, according to Mr Con Alday, chairman of the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, which yesterday announced a £20m profit increase to £54.6m.

## Coal warning

Sir Norman Siddall has warned Mr Ian MacGregor, his successor as coal board chairman, not to risk conflict with the miners by accelerating the industry's rundown.

## Turks' poll limit

Only three parties can contest the Turkish election in November, after 14 others were excluded by the military regime of President Evren.

## Mayfair sale

STR, the engineering conglomerate which took over the Thomas Tilling group two months ago, is selling Tilling's Mayfair headquarters, Crews House. It is said to want £50m.

## Polish release

Mr Wladyslaw Haredek, an underground leader of Solidarity who surrendered to the Polish police, was released after being questioned.

## Aquino inquiry

President Marcos of the Philippines has announced that a special commission will investigate the assassination of Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader shot dead.

## Scientific talks

The meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 4.

## Essex prosper

Centuries by Gooch and McEwan put Essex in a commanding position against Worcestershire in the county championship yesterday. Report, page 18.

## Leader page 11

Letters: On the Soviet challenge, from Dr George Ignatieff, and Mr Brian Thomas, youth training, from Mr Paul Lewis; Dartmoor spraying, from Lady Sayer.

Leading articles: Detention under Mental Health Acts; Soviet-US grain deal; Convertible cars features, pages 8, 10.

The poverty lobby looks for more public money; Russia's eternal queue; an MP campaigns against cut; Spectrum: Profile of Sir Bernard Lovell.

Books, page 9.

The latest children's books from picture books to novels for young people, and from humour to computer books, reviewed by Brian Alderson, our children's books editor, and his team of reviewers.

Obituary, page 12.

Mr PRC Elliott

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# Rush for A-plates brings record August car sales

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The fiercest price war ever experienced in the British car market has led to sales in the first two-thirds of this month reaching a record 304,000 - well in excess of the total for the whole of August last year.

Sales for the month, boosted by the introduction of the "A" prefix registration plate and an estimated £50m in dealer incentives, are on target to break through the 350,000 mark, much higher than the most optimistic manufacturers were predicting a few months ago.

British car workers - and the Government - can also take heart from a significant drop in imports in the first 20 days of August and a startling 11 per cent fall in the market share captured by cars produced elsewhere in the European Community compared to the same period last year.

The danger for the industry is that the August boom may be

sucking in sales from the rest of the year and as a result the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders continues to be cautious about increasing its 1983 forecast of 1.7m sales, still lower than the previous annual record 1.72m of 1979.

The 20-day figure of 303,943 is 21.2 per cent higher than the same period a year ago. Cars made in Britain captured 42.78 per cent while imports, which were running at nearly 60 per cent in August 1982, have been cut back to 57.22 per cent. The Japanese share remained relatively depressed at 10.55 per cent.

The number of cars in the 20-day figure originating from within the EEC was 119,814, giving a share of 39.42 per cent against 50.41 per cent a year ago. This includes cars from the European factories of Ford and General Motors.

Ford took 30.1 per cent of the 20-day market followed by BL

with 19.1 per cent, and Vauxhall/Opel with 14.4 per cent.

The continued success of Vauxhall, and in particular its Cavalier and Astra models, has given the company the prospect of achieving its goal of a 16 per cent market share two years earlier than planned, a spokesman said yesterday.

Vauxhall has sold 182,911 cars so far this year, 1,450 more than in the whole of 1982. Now it believes it will sell 250,000 in 1983, giving a market share of 15.5 per cent.

BL announced last night that it was raising the prices of most Austin Rover cars by 4.5 per cent from midnight on Sunday. The move, which follows Ford's decision to impose a 4.9 per cent rise from August 15, reflects manufacturers' growing unease at the impact on their finances of the cut-throat competition among dealers. Neither increase, however, will affect cars already in the showrooms.

## Lowest exports this year put Britain in the red

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

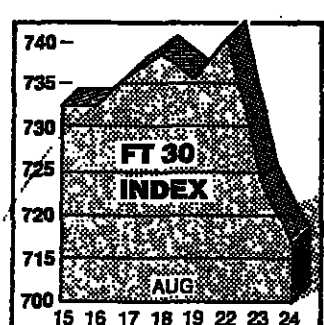
A sharp drop in exports to the lowest level since January pushed Britain's balance of payments unexpectedly into the red last month.

The fall in exports is bound to alarm the Government. With the consumer boom already showing signs of levelling off, ministers have been pinning their hopes on export-led growth to keep the economy moving ahead.

Officials said yesterday that it was too soon to judge whether the trend in exports was downwards this year. But the department of Trade and Industry conceded that the volume of exports in the last three months was 3 per cent lower than the preceding three months.

Combined with a relatively modest rise in imports last month, the fall in exports left Britain's visible trade in deficit by £350m last month, compared with a revised surplus of £162m the previous month.

Including the estimated surplus of £250m on invisible trade, such as shipping and banking, the current account showed a deficit of £100m last month. That was about £250m worse than market expectations



and marks a £512m turnaround from the revised June surplus.

The Government's Budget forecast of a £1,500m balance of payments surplus this year is beginning to look increasingly remote, although the Treasury said that the £478m surplus so far this year was only slightly lower than that implied by the Budget prediction.

The poor trade figures added to the pound's weakness on the foreign exchange markets yesterday. Sterling lost 1 cent against the dollar to \$1.5190 and eased against continental currencies. The trade-weighted value fell by 0.1 to 85.6.

On the stock market, shares fell again because of worries about public spending problems and the gloomy forecast for the economy from the National Institute of Economic and

Social Research. The index of the top shares fell 7.4 to 716.6 for a two-day fall of 23.8.

The poor July trade figures were affected by a lower surplus on oil trade and erratic items such as precious stones and aircraft.

Imports of £15,300m in the latest three months were 1.5 per cent higher in volume than the three months before, but the Department of Trade and Industry said the underlying level was stable after the sharp rise early in the year.

However, the trend in exports is more worrying. The fall of 7.5 per cent to £4,730m last month was broadly-based, reflecting lower exports of semi-manufactured goods other than chemicals and lower oil and capital goods deliveries.

One bit of bright news for the Government was a prediction from Royal Bank of Scotland that it was heading for an unexpected £1,000m windfall from the North Sea.

Royal Bank said this year's Budget forecast of £8,000m in North Sea oil revenues was well short of the mark and the Government could now expect at least £9,000m.

Market Report, page 14  
City Editor, page 15

## Aviemore Centre for sale by Fraser

By Philip Robinson

The Aviemore Centre, Scotland's best known skiing resort, is for sale. The asking price is thought to be more than £3m.

The owner, the stores group House of Fraser, which also owns Harrods, said last night that it was for sale as part of a major group review of assets.

Aviemore, the company said, was not profitable enough. A Fraser spokesman added: "It has suffered the same fate as many other leisure places. But there is no question of our closing the centre. We have received some interested inquiries."

At the same time, Professor Roland Smith has rejected a 60 per cent pay rise and the job as full time chairman of the House of Fraser. But, it was announced last night, he will remain chairman on a part-time basis at £50,000 a year.

The two-year contract he has rejected, would have included £80,000 a year pay, a pension scheme share option rights, a car, a chauffeur and a house in London. It was fiercely opposed by Lomro, Fraser's biggest shareholder which has two representatives on the Fraser

board. The two sides have been locked in battle over whether to float off Harrods as a separate company.

Aviemore was opened in 1961 at a cost of £2.7m and was the idea of the late Lord Fraser of Allander, founder of the stores group and father of the Glasgow businessman, Sir Hugh Fraser, who was once chairman of his father's empire.

But Mr Ian Henderson, a spokesman for the centre said last night, was leaving a boom year. "We have had a super summer following the best winter season for three years and the centre is bursting at the seams," he said.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lomro director, said: "The sale comes as a complete surprise to me. They seem to be selling everything. It's appalling."

Professor Smith was appointed as Fraser chairman in an attempt to stave off a takeover bid from Lomro. Its £20m offer two years ago was vetoed by the Monopolies Commission, after which Lomro promised the Government it would not increase its influence over the company.



Street riot: A Pakistani policeman firing tear gas grenades at stone-throwing demonstrators in the Chakiwara district of Karachi.

## Beith appeals for stronger Alliance

By Anthony Bervins, Political Correspondent

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Chief Whip, reacted to party in-fighting with a public assurance last night that party activists would "exercise the self-discipline which is needed to demonstrate that we are potentially the next Government".

But his statement, made on Channel 4's *News Comment*, was bound to be taken as an appeal for peace at the party's Conference, which starts on September 19.

Liberal and Social Democratic Party leaders are increasingly concerned that Liberal activists will erode Alliance credibility, built up at the general election with continued battles over policy and tactics.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has let it be known that he would resign if the party assembly voted to take away his right of veto over the contents of the general election manifesto, and he has shown marked impatience with MPs and others who have criticized his management of the election campaign.

Mr Beith made his indirect appeal for unity when he said: "The voters are expecting a lot of us."

He said that Labour had excluded itself from the essential task of opposition to the Conservative Government by internal wrangling and total commitment to policies which would always be rejected by the voters.

## Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

By Our Political Correspondent

Labour's deputy leadership contest, which is expected to end with a run-off between Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr Michael Meacher, could result in a "knife-edge victory for Mr Hattersley according to the latest issue of a *New Statesman*, published today.

An analysis by the Socialist Weekly concludes: "The deputy leadership election in October could be as close as in 1981, when Denis Healey beat Tony Benn by less than 1 per cent."

The *Sunday Times* suggested Mr Meacher could beat Mr Hattersley by 11.6 per cent, the

*New Statesman* produces a "best guess" of a Meacher defeat by a slender 3.2 per cent margin.

Last night Mr Meacher said he regarded both surveys as "absurdly spurious" because some large unions and many constituency parties were balloting members.

He did, however comment on the *New Statesman* result: "That's a knife-edge. My best estimate is that the result will be between 40 per cent and 60 per cent - either way."

Interest is turning to the deputy leadership contest. Continued on back page, col 4

## Terror in the streets of Pakistan

From Michael Hamlyn, Karachi

With tears running down her cheeks from the effect of a riot gas shell going off in her back yard, a grey-haired woman in pale blue *shalwar* and *kameez* - the Pakistani national dress of baggy trousers and long shirt - took off her sari and walloped a policeman on the shoulder with it.

He seemed to be four times her size, twice as tall and twice as broad, and he shrugged her off. Other women in her family wailed and shouted. A young girl sobbed and showed off bloodstains on her flowered *kameez*.

A few minutes earlier the young woman had been prominent among a group of teenagers standing on the roof of the house throwing stones at the police in the street below.

Now they were all protesting the brutality of the grey-shirted police, who had rushed the house and dragged the young people out to put a stop to the stone-throwing.

The incident was sparked off by the arrest of the man of the house, a former minister in the provincial government of Sind, Mr Ali Ahmed Sumro.

He attempted to lead off a procession calling for an end to the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq.

He was hurriedly dumped into the back of a police pick-up, where he was set upon by a number of plain clothes. He was shouting the while: "Down with Zia, down with Zia."

The area is in the Lysri district of Karachi and is a stronghold of the Pakistan People's Party, to which the former Prime Minister, Mr Bhutto, belonged. Sumro's arrest was the signal a great many people hanging around on street corners had been waiting for.

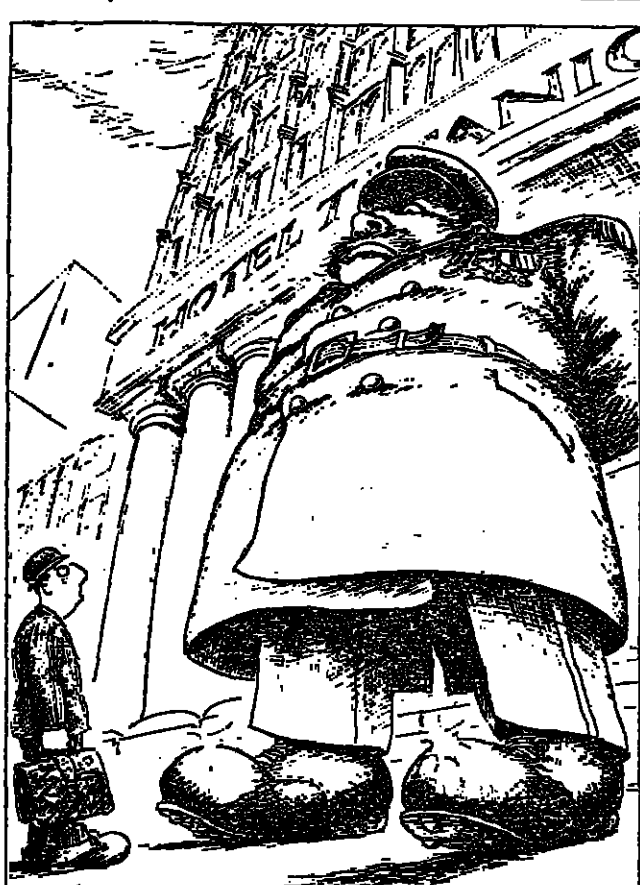
They picked up missiles from the crumbling surface of Kalri Road, and lobbed them at police. The police replied by throwing them back, and following up with tear gas.

The riot then followed the same pattern as a similar riot the day before in the Chakiwara district a few streets away. A game of hide and seek in the alleys and by-ways of the district ended with further arrests. Soon after dark both sides went home to supper.

The official death toll in Sind province yesterday was given as 21. Altogether, according to a government spokesman, 1,219 people have been arrested since the troubles began on Independence Day, August 14.

Elsewhere in the province small handfuls of men courted arrest on the tenth day of the campaign of civil disobedience called by the outlawed eight-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. There were no reports of large scale violence, although two major

Continued on back page, col 6



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## Sculpture blaze man dies

The man injured in the fire which destroyed the controversial tyres sculpture of Polanski died yesterday in the burns unit of Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton.

Mr James Gore-Graham, aged 37, suffered 90 per cent burns in the fire outside the Festival Hall in London on Sunday.

Mr Gore-Graham, a furniture designer, of Colet Gardens, west Kensington, had been on the critical list since the fire. Police wanted to interview him, but could not do so because of the seriousness of his injuries.

The 170 ft submarine, made of 6,000 used tyres by Mr David Mach, was badly damaged. It has been decided not to restore it.

## Labour will 'lose city £1.6m'

Labour-controlled Liverpool City Council was accused yesterday by Liberal members of planning to cut more than £400,000 from social services to build more houses - even though 1,000 council properties are empty.

Liberals say that the Economic Development Committee has agreed to abandon plans to build a family care centre, a nursery and a adult training workshop for the mentally handicapped, which could lose the city £1.6m in government grant.

## £6.7m target for left-wing paper

Trade union leaders yesterday agreed to seek the approval of Britain's labour movement next month for their campaign to start up a new daily newspaper of the left. They want to establish a high level committee to raise £6.7m for a successor to the defunct *Daily Herald*.

The committee would call on external financing as well as the labour movement's own resources to start up a "quality tabloid" to offer an alternative to Fleet Street journals.

## Police hunt for killers

More than fifty detectives are hunting a gang of muggers who killed one man and left another critically injured. The dead man was found in bushes in the Townhead district of Glasgow on Monday. He has not been identified.

Mr William Coulter, aged 44, from Barmullock, Glasgow, was stable in the Southern General Hospital last night. Police believe both men were attacked within minutes and within yards of each other on Saturday.

# Outgoing NCB chief warns against conflict with miners over too-rapid rundown

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Sir Norman Siddall, the National Coal Board's outgoing chairman, has warned his successor, Mr Ian MacGregor, not to risk a conflict with the miners by running down the industry too rapidly.

In a videotaped interview with *The Times* last night, he urged a continuation of the board's "softly softly" approach, which has reduced the industry's manpower by 10,000 this year as the management works towards a shutdown of 25 million tonnes of uneconomic capacity.

"I would say that to return the industry to profitability within three years is a fairly massive task," he said in his last week at the helm of Britain's biggest state industry.

Mr MacGregor, the British Steel Corporation chairman, has been appointed head of the coal industry until 1986 in a move popularly expected to herald widespread pit closures and radical reforms in the way the industry is run. He has had three informal sessions of talks with senior NCB people.

Sir Norman said last night: "I do not think he is the sort of man that would make a facile assumption that he can import his strategy from BSC to coal mining. The situation of the two industries is entirely different."

He discounted the prospect of an early strike against Mr MacGregor. He said: "There has got to be quite a combination of factors put together to get an all-out strike in the coal industry. Very often in that situation it might be something quite unexpected that coalesces the workforce."

The trigger could come from NCB moves to break up national bargaining with the National Union of Mineworkers, whose claim for substantial increases will be formally submitted in a month.

"To go further with local bargaining than we have done at present might be the one thing that would coalesce the workforce," Sir Norman said.

The miners meet the NCB to hear their answer to a "substantial" claim on September 27 and the union fears Mr MacGregor will try to bring to the coal industry his successful strategy at British Steel of abolishing the annual national wage round in favour of local productivity-based negotiations.

NCB managers recognize that, although a typical collier these days is a car-owning, mortgage-paying professional, he could still be moved to strike by a government inspired campaign to replace national

pay bargaining with local negotiations related to higher output.

Sir Norman said: "In spite of the fact that the workforce has changed considerably, the great protection they have is the national basic wage." Its removal would cause a crisis particularly if it was lumped together with other management demands.

A full frontal attack based on wages and pit closures could go horribly wrong, Sir Norman believes.

"One of the difficulties about having a strike in the industry is that they are very good at it," he admitted. "It would be about all the rest and Arthur Scargill would be able to bring out all his anti-Tebbit political ideas and one thing and another."

The outcome of such a strike would depend entirely on the resolution of our political masters and what the conclusion is likely to be."

Sir Norman has privately argued against the Cabinet picking a strike with the miners just for a show of strength and believes it will not happen during the MacGregor reign.

But he adds: "That does not mean to say it is not true. But you cannot starve people out in a strike."



## Good temperament of the £7m colt

The most expensive yearling in the world (above with stable lad) is showing no signs of a temperament to match his £7m price tag as he settles in to stables in Sussex, his trainer, Mr John Dunlop, said yesterday.

The chestnut colt, sired by Northern Dancer out of American mare My Bupers, was bought by an Arab oil millionaire Sheikh Mohammed Al-Maktoum, of Dubai, at the Keeneland sales in Kentucky last month.

He arrived at Mr Dunlop's Arundel

stables last Thursday and has started his training programme by being exercised in a paddock. Although he has not been officially named, he is called "Dancer" by stable staff.

Mr Dunlop said: "The colt has really pleased everybody with his temperament. He will get no special treatment."

No special security arrangements have been made for the colt. "It has always been

## Asbestos products to go in 5 years

By John Withers

The manufacture of asbestos products is likely to disappear in Britain over the next five years as a result of stricter controls, industry sources said yesterday.

But workers removing or dealing with asbestos already in buildings face a health hazard for decades from the substance which is now widely recognized as a carcinogenic agent.

The decision on Tuesday by the Health and Safety Commission to recommend tighter controls on the use and importation of asbestos was generally welcomed yesterday, although pressure groups said it did not go far enough and called for a complete ban.

Mr Harrie Harte, a director at Turner & Newall, the country's leading manufacturer of asbestos products, said he expected most asbestos products to be replaced within five years, with the possible exception of brake linings and high

technology space programme products.

He added that the new restrictions, which will not come into force for another year, were already being implemented in most workplaces, although the company would have difficulty in reducing the amount of asbestos in the air in textile manufacture.

A spokesman for the Asbestos Information Centre, which represents the industry, said that about £40m had been spent on research into alternatives to asbestos and that British regulations were twice as stringent as those in Europe.

Professor Donald Acheson, who is shortly to become the Government's chief medical officer, said the new controls were reasonable.

He thought that the risks of disease caused by exposure to asbestos had been greatly reduced by the tighter controls

## Stillborn verdict on baby of Gail Kinchin

From Arthur Osman Birmingham

Injuries caused by police bullets which killed a girl being used as a shield by a gunman also caused the death of her unborn child, a Birmingham inquest was told yesterday.

Dr Richard Whittington, the Birmingham coroner, told the jury that it could not bring in a verdict that the baby was unlawfully killed because technically the child had not lived. Its verdict had to be that the baby was stillborn.

The mother, Gail Kinchin, was aged 16 when she was admitted to hospital after the shooting in June, 1980. The baby was dead and the mother died a month later, aged 17.

She had been hit by three bullets when her boyfriend, David Pagett, who was 31, used her as a "shield" in the exchange of shots with the Police at a block of flats at Rubery, Birmingham. Pagett was jailed for 12 years after being convicted of her man-



Gail Kinchin: Hit by three bullets.

slaughter and the attempted murder of three people, including two police officers.

It was dark when police marksmen returned Pagett's fire and at his trial they said they did not know the girl was being used as a shield.

Dr James Burns, senior lecturer in pathology at Liverpool University, said yesterday that there was a bullet injury to the placenta. He read a surgeon's report stating that there were two bullet holes

## Bomb link with Angry Brigade

The police were last night almost certain that the Angry Brigade was responsible for the bombing last Saturday night of the American Express office in the City of London.

They were convinced by details of the composition of the device, which damaged windows of the office in Cannon Street, given in a letter received by the Press Association yesterday.

Det Insp Tony Davies, who is leading the hunt for the bombers, said the details "were very similar to the description of the device but I am not in a position to say whether they are identical."

"However, I am satisfied that whoever sent the letter was responsible for planting the device and I have no reason to think otherwise than it is the Angry Brigade."

The message on the letter, printed in uneven block capitals, was signed "Captain Scarle, Angry Brigade." The envelope carried a London postmark apparently SW1, and was posted first class at 7.15 pm on Tuesday. As well as giving details of the bomb it bore a postscript: "PS We don't drive Range-Rovers."

This is probably a reference to a police appeal for the driver of a Range-Rover or similar vehicle seen near the scene to come forward. The driver has already been seen by the police and eliminated from their inquiries.

There have been three other bombings within the last year for which the Angry Brigade has claimed responsibility.

A Department of Health and Social Security office in Manchester was damaged last September. Two months later the group claimed responsibility for an explosion outside a prison officers' training college in Wakefield West Yorkshire, and in January a parcel bomb was delivered to the Yorkshire area Conservative Party.

Those incidents were the first time since early 1970s that the Angry Brigade had been active. The original Angry Brigade was a revolutionary anarchist group which carried out a series of bombings between 1968 and 1971.

## RUC seeks wife of most wanted man

From Richard Ford Belfast

Detectives in Northern Ireland want to question the wife of Dominic McGlinchey, Ireland's most wanted man, in connection with the murder of police constable at a security checkpoint in co Tyrone last May.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary also believes that Mrs Mary McGlinchey, a mother of two in her mid-twenties, may be able to help them identify the masked woman who fired a volley of shots over the coffin of Gerard Mallon last week.

Mallon, an Irish National Liberation Army gunman, died in an ambush that went wrong at Dungannon, co Tyrone, earlier this month and McGlinchey, aged 29, sent a wreath to his "comrade's" funeral.

Mrs McGlinchey comes from a staunchly republican family Toome, south Londonderry, and married her husband eight years ago. The police believe that she is living in the Irish Republic.

McGlinchey, known as the "Mad Dog", operated in a Provisional IRA unit led by Francis Hughes, a dead hunger striker, before he joined the INLA. He is believed to organize its activities in border areas.

Police constable Colin Carson died in Cooleshill, co Tyrone, when someone in a van opened fire on a security checkpoint outside the town's police station. The abandoned vehicle was later found with women's clothing inside.

More family pressure was exerted on the informer Kirkpatrick yesterday in an attempt to persuade him to retract statements implicating 18 people in terrorist activities and ensure the safe release of his wife, Elizabeth, who is being held by the INLA.

Her father, Mr Henry Meenan, from Ballymurphy, west Belfast, said: "It's all up to him now when his wife returns safe and sound. I appeal to him on behalf of me and her mother to change his mind and let his wife get home to us right away."

Mr Meenan's appeal follows similar statements from Kirkpatrick's mother, father and stepfather.

Their pleas have increased since his stepfather and half-sister were freed by the police from INLA captivity last week. The INLA lifted the "execution" deadline on his wife so that he could have more time to decide what action to take.

In Londonderry the IRA last night claimed responsibility for the murder of a Protestant businessman, aged 50, who was shot dead yesterday at his city centre office in what the police believe may have been an attempted armed robbery.

## Sun loses appeal over Hindley

The *Sun* newspaper failed yesterday in its attempt to have lifted the ban on publishing extracts of statements made in support of an application for parole by Myra Hindley, who was jailed for life in 1966 for her part in the moors murders.

Two judges in the Court of Appeal dismissed the application by News Group Newspapers, the publishers against the High Court ban, won on Tuesday by Hindley who claimed breach of her copyright and confidence.

Justice Griffiths said that he could think of nothing more damaging to the parole system than for prisoners to fear that their private statements would be leaked to the press.

Lord Justice Kerr said that it was a "plain case of a flagrant infringement of copyright", unless *The Sun* could prove it was a so-called "fair dealing" of the confidential documents. That would be a matter for the full trial of Hindley's copyright action against *The Sun*, the judge.

The judges ordered that the publicity ban, originally ordered to apply until Friday, must now run until the main trial of Hindley's actions, which might not be for several weeks.

During the hearing, Mr Leonard Hoffman QC, for *The Sun*, conceded that Hindley held the copyright in her 22,000-word statement which was written in 1978. But he said that the paper was entitled to publish the statement as part of its "fair dealing" of a criticism of a literary work. The statement was and relevant to current events.

Overseas selling prices  
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## Police hunting men who assaulted boy lack vital computer software

By David Nicholson-Lord

Sussex police hunting for the three men who sexually assaulted a six-year-old boy in Brighton are having to sift through thousands of filing cards by hand because they do not have the right software to do it by computer.

The Sussex force has one of the most advanced computer systems in the country, but it does not have the programs needed for cross-referencing the information from the 300 telephone calls a day which it is receiving.

Details are being stored on filing cards in metal trays. A police spokesman said yesterday: "We have got a paper mountain of information in there but we have not got the software package and program that will run this sort of incident."

The police yesterday rejected suggestions that their inquiries are failing.

Det Chief Insp Peter Whitehouse, who is heading the investigation, praised the cooperation of the press, the public and other police forces. "I am absolutely confident that we are going to catch them. I am convinced that somewhere in the system is information which is going to lead us to these three men," he said.

Criticism that failure to use computers to collate information is a considerable flaw in police handling of big incidents was made recently in a report by the Chief Inspector of Constabulary into the West Yorkshire police's handling of

the "Yorkshire Ripper" case. Although there have been a number of initiatives designed to speed up the use of computers, the only active use in cases like that in Brighton has been in a pilot study carried out in Essex. Known as Major Incident Room Index and Action Management (Miriam), it is aimed at the sort of incident now being handled in Brighton.

Mr Whitehouse said that although computerization of the inquiry had been considered, "with about 2,500 telephone messages logged... it is going to take an awful lot of time to put them on the computer."

The police said that even if a computer retrieval system were available, it would have to be run in tandem with the present manual system.

The Home Office is monitoring the progress of the Brighton inquiry, which is believed to be the biggest in the Sussex force's history. Fifty officers on the case have followed up 900 of the calls so far received, referred another 100 to other forces and discarded about 1,500.

The police yesterday made a new appeal to two men aged between 50 and 60 seen talking to the assaulted boy and his twin brother shortly before he was abducted 12 days ago. The men, who are thought to live locally, are being asked to come forward as material witnesses.

Tape recordings of an anonymous telephone caller with a northern accent, who said that he was homosexual and knew

one of the attackers but was terrified to come forward, are being sent to police forces in the north of England.

The fact that the man has not come forward, despite repeated appeals, has led officers in charge of the investigation to conclude that he may have been a hoaxer.

Interpol have so far failed to identify a brown, car with German number plates seen near where the boy was kidnapped.

A couple heard "screams of fear" from the open ground pinpointed as the likely scene of the attack on the boy but did not notify police until four days later, it was disclosed yesterday.

The couple, who have declined to be named, live next to Beacon Hill, the area of open downland used by joggers and horse riders, and where a tea-shirt thought to belong to the boy was spotted.

The police said that they heard the screams at about 9.30pm on the evening of the attack. The wife looked out of a window and saw several people and a child walking along a footpath further up the hill.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has asked for a report from the Metropolitan Police on the activities of the Paedophile Information Exchange before considering demands that he ban the organization.

The report will be separate from the files submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions which involve consideration of the prosecution of individuals.

## Legionnaire disease man dies

A man aged 23 who was a kidney transplant patient, has died from legionnaire's disease and three other cases of the disease have been confirmed among patients at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. A fifth case is suspected.

Laboratory staff are checking the water supply at the hospital, which was opened in 1979. There was an outbreak of the disease there two years ago.

Mr John Kurtz, consultant biologist at the hospital, said he believed all the cases were isolated incidents and that the water system was not to blame. A hospital spokesman said the water supply is regularly inspected but confirmed that checks were being increased. Legionnaire's disease, a condition with some similarities to pneumonia, is often contracted through bacteria in water supplies.

## Murder attempt charges fail

A man was cleared yesterday of attempting to murder three people. Christopher Allen, aged 29, unemployed, of no fixed address, was sent in custody from Clerkenwell magistrates' court for trial on three charges of possessing a knife.

No evidence was offered on charges that he attempted to murder Mr Alfredo Albano, aged 61, Mrs Phyllis Waldren, aged 62, and Mrs Gloria Innis, aged 42, who were stabbed on London streets.

## Biggest safety campaign opens

Britain's biggest home safety campaign, costing £100,000 and funded by the Manpower Services Commission, was opened in Gloucester yesterday by Mr David Clayer, the Health Education Council's director general.

Gloucestershire has been chosen for an experiment which may lead to a national drive to reduce home accidents.

## Microcomputer shops in North

A national network of 12 high street microcomputer shops is to be set up by next spring by the Cheshire-based publishing group Europress, at the cost of £1m.

The Greater Manchester area has been chosen for the first three, which will be opened within the next two weeks.

## Students fined

Two students, Helena Cunningham, aged 21, from Leeds, and Ian Wilson, aged 23, from Glasgow, were each fined £20 by Harrogate magistrates yesterday after being convicted of obstructing the Prime Minister's car in Harrogate in May.

## Gypsy grant

City councillors have voted to give gypsies £500 to help finance a two-day festival in October at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, where factory owners have been withholding rates in protest over illegal camping on industrial estates.

## Miner injured

Paul Lynam aged 18, a miner, of Linsby, Nottinghamshire, was critically ill with internal injuries after being trapped yesterday in a conveyor belt on an underground roadway at Babington Colliery, Nottingham.

## Surfing along on the crest of a wave



Making waves: A competitor in the biggest surfing event in Europe, the Foster's Draught EuroPro, which began at Fistral Beach, Newquay, Cornwall, on Tuesday, goes through his paces. Forty-eight leading international professionals are competing in the world-class event for £20,000 (£13,330) prize money. The contest, which ends on Sunday, was won last year by Richard Cram, from Australia. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

## Holidays in hotels most popular with children

The ideal holiday for children is a "push" hotel abroad where they can stay up late, according to a survey conducted by MORI for the travel firm, Thomas Cook, published yesterday.

It finds that children no longer want the traditional bucket and spade holiday by the seaside, self catering or camping holidays.

Only eight per cent of the 509 children aged between eight and 12 interviewed wanted to go on holiday in Britain. The favourite spot was North America, which won the approval of half the children.

But there were reservations about foreign food. Fish and chips, ice cream and hamburgers were the favourite foods of nine out of ten.

The children's ideas of holiday fun were simple. Top of the list was staying up late, with swimming in a pool a close second. Sun bathing and shopping were considered the most boring activities.

Parents were considered vital ingredients of a good holiday by 77 per cent of the youngsters. A boy aged eight said: "My dad's different... he mucks about and doesn't get as cross and if he does he just sort of taps you."

"Perhaps its time parents questioned the time-honoured theory that young children are not 'ready' for a holiday abroad, and are happier with what they know," Thomas Cooks marketing director, Mr Andrew Barrett, said.

## Shoplifters' treatment defended

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Rejecting a suggestion that alleged shoplifters needed to be dealt with more humanely, a Home Office committee said yesterday that no evidence had emerged to suggest that innocent people were being convicted.

"We would accept that people who are sick, under stress or genuinely forgetful sometimes make mistakes when they are shopping," the committee's report said.

Cases in which the evidence concerning the intention to steal was inconclusive were filtered out primarily when the police decided whether to prosecute, the committee reported.

"A court cannot convict on a shoplifting charge unless it is satisfied beyond reasonable

doubt that the goods were taken dishonestly rather than by inadvertence or forgetfulness," it added.

The suggestion dismissed by the committee advocated the introduction of a preliminary procedure before a court hearing, especially where the person concerned was ill or elderly and had no previous convictions.

In 1981 the police issued 47,443 cautions in shoplifting cases while 75,833 offenders were found guilty of the offence in magistrates' and crown courts.

Shoplifting and Theft by Shop Staff - A review by the Home Office Standing Committee on Crime Prevention 1983. (Stationery Office, £2.75).

● A Southampton crown court judge has criticized a senior Hampshire policeman for dropping a shoplifting case because he said it would cost too much.

After being told that Mr Kenneth Boothby, assistant chief constable of Hampshire would be offering no evidence against a man accused of shoplifting, Judge Ian Starforth Hill said that he would be sending Mr Boothby a strongly worded letter expressing his anger that the case had been allowed to get to crown court before being dropped.

Mr Stephen Parish, for the prosecution, said that Mr Boothby had thought the case would be a waste of public money. The alleged theft involved a packet of batteries.

## Open challenge by Ford

Ford is launching its first convertible European car for more than 20 years, to exploit the new popularity of open-top motoring, exemplified by the success of Volkswagen's Golf Convertible (our Motoring Correspondent writes).

The Escort Cabriolet (above) based on Europe's best-selling car, is already in production and will be shown at the Frankfurt Motor Show, opening on September 14. It will be available with 1.3, 1.6 or 105bhp fuel injection engine. Prices are yet to be decided.

The Cabriolet is being assembled by Karmann, the German specialist coach-builders who also handle the Golf Convertible, which, since its launch in 1979, has achieved the status of a "cult" car, always in short supply although costing up to £2,000 more than closed versions.

Only 20,000 Golf Convertibles are made each year. It has been sold out in Britain for nearly a month and new supplies are not expected until the end of September.

Leading article, page 11

## Lucan's tenant's to be sued for unpaid rent

Irish tenants of Lord Lucan who owe him or his estate an estimated £100,000 rent, unpaid since he vanished in 1974, are to be sued for the money.

Mr Michael Egan, a solicitor and agent for the Lucan family in Ireland, said that Courts, the bankers, had received permission from the High Court in London to deal with the affairs of the missing peer.

The decision means that about 1,200 householders in Castlebar, Co Mayo, may now be brought to court.

## Cancer mother dies in Australia

Mrs Sheryl Skirton, who refused treatment for cancer to save her unborn child, died in Melbourne, Australia, yesterday. Mrs Skirton, aged 35, a nurse, from Whitechurch, Bristol, gave birth to a boy weighing 2lb 10oz on an aircraft at Melbourne Airport on August 8 while on her way to see her parents.

Her husband Chris, aged 38, is expected to return to his job as a sales supervisor for a soft drinks firm.



David Clidge with his puppet Roland Rat  
Big time beckons Roland Rat

By David Hewson

TV-am's first and only successful superstar set his maracas to a familiar show business riddle yesterday: Will Roland Rat quit for the big time?

Mr David Clidge, the actor who introduced the rodent that pulled in the audiences who were not at the show, has received several offers to move his maracas to other areas of the ITV network.

"There are lots of offers around and at the moment I have yet to discuss the future with TV-am," he said. "We are talking about a Roland Rat Christmas Special to be filmed in Switzerland, but we need to recruit more people to expand. I am just a one-man show at the moment," he said.

Mr Clidge, aged 30, writes the scripts, operates the 4ft rodent and provides the voices for both the lead character and his dim-witted companion, Kevin the Gerbil. Staff shortages have prevented the appearance of Mr Clidge's third creation, Erol the Hamster.

Roland evolved last Easter when TV-am was still under its former management, Miss Ann Wood, the children's editor, wanted a puppet character to introduce a cartoon segment, and Mr Clidge passed the audition.

The rodent's summer holiday cartoon segment, *Rat on the Road*, have narrowed the gap between TV-am and its BBC rival.



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## BRITISH ASSOCIATION



## 'Work' will transform schooling

By Lucy Hodges  
Education Correspondent

The new subject called "work", now being taught in schools, could completely change the nature of state schooling by pushing yet more academic education out of state schools into the independent sector, according to Professor Samuel Eggleston, head of the education department at Keele University.

Speaking yesterday to the education section, he said that young people seemed to enjoy work experience schemes. "Evidence is available in most reports that they are seen to be interesting and certainly less boring than other aspects of school", Professor Eggleston, an expert on the subject, said. "Attendance during work experience programmes often runs at a consistently higher level than participation in 'normal' school."

There was also evidence that well planned work experience gave young people a better chance of obtaining a job.

## Earthquakes a risk in UK geologist says

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britain is more vulnerable to earthquakes than most scientists recognize, according to Dr R. Muir Wood, a senior geologist with Principia Mechanical, consultant engineers, of London.

His assertion was made at a discussion on the impact of natural disasters, volcanic and seismic, on climate and on living things. His conclusions are based on the results of a three-year research programme undertaken, he claims for the first time, into the complete record of historical evidence of earthquakes in Britain.

He had sifted 8,000 pages of archive material to identify 1,000 earthquakes, the earliest in 600 AD. His research revealed many previously unknown earthquakes.

He says that British earthquakes have ruined cathedrals, churches and numerous houses as well as producing fatalities. While Scotland had had many small tremors and had attracted the attention of seismologists, the largest and most damaging earthquakes had been in southern Britain. For example, Swansea, lying on an active fault-bed passing from Pembrokeshire to Hereford, had been

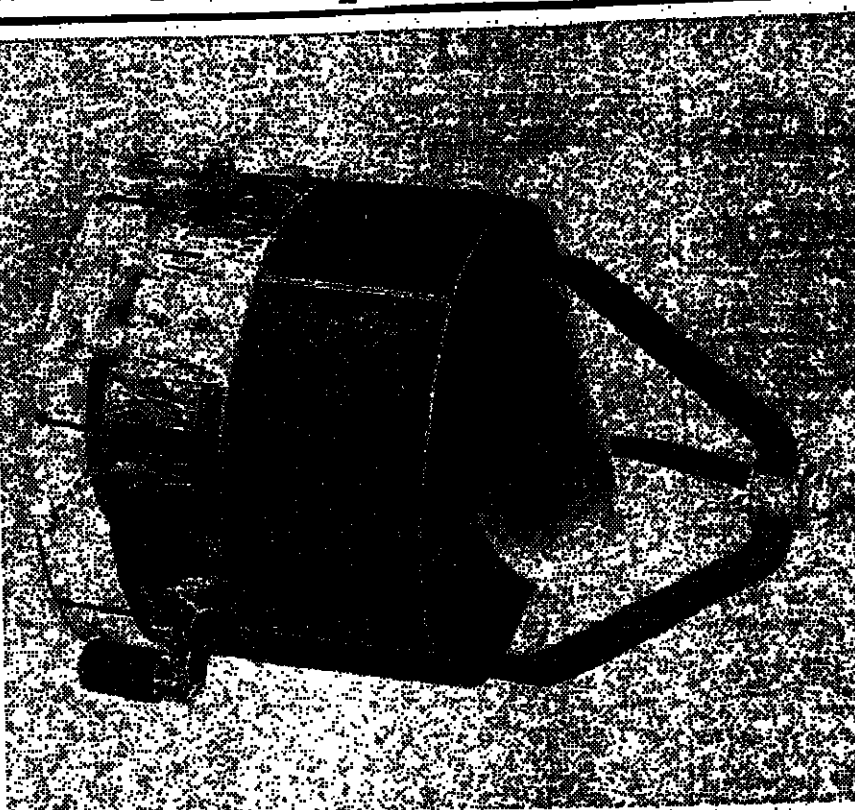
damaged severely four times since 1700.

But the biggest earthquake hit, and one that stretches into Kent, was seismically active zone passing from Cologne through Belgium and across the Channel, finishing in the London basin.

An examination of the activity along that fault showed, for instance, that in 1382 earthquake damage extended from Flanders to Canterbury, where the cathedral bell tower was demolished. In 1580, an earthquake around the Strait of Dover killed people as far away as London and Belgium.

Despite two small damaging earthquakes in London in 1750, and the great Colchester earthquake that shattered houses and churches in several villages in 1884, there had been no repetition of such considerable events.

But Dr Muir Wood said that Britain needed to take its earthquakes more seriously. "The British still believe earthquakes are about as English as pizza and, unlike the Germans or French, have no national network of monitoring stations" he said.



Space explorer: An artist's impression (left) of the Giotto Satellite which will photograph the nucleus of Halley's Comet in 1986 and gather information on the comet's coma region and tail. Right: Mr Steve Kellock with Giotto's British component, the Johnstone plasma analyzer, for which he is experiment manager (Photograph: John Voss).

## The human face of talking computers

Talking computers will soon have human faces as well as human speech. The stimulus comes from medical research to help people with impaired speech and hearing.

It was one of the innovations reported to a meeting of the association's psychology section on the clinical applications of

electronically synthesized speech and the progress in speech recognition by computer.

Introducing the topic, Professor M. P. Haggard, director of the Medical Research Council's Institute of Hearing Research at Nottingham University, gave preliminary find-

ings of a study into the response of drivers of the new Austin Maestro, which is equipped to "talk" to its driver.

Professor Haggard said that the Maestro gave a unique opportunity to test what people found to be an acceptable quality of synthetic speech. In fact, he suggested, having

to learn a computer dialect might even influence British insularity by encouraging the learning of a second language. Computers with a human face as well as human voices were also described by Dr Michael Brooke, of Lancaster University, in a demonstration of computer graphics.

## Deep crisis for Dutch spending

By Our Technology Correspondent

The Dutch welfare state, probably the most generous in the world, is in deep crisis, according to a professor of economics from Amsterdam University.

Professor Michael Elms described Dutch experience to the association's economic section as a particular dramatic example of the more widespread "crisis of the welfare state" which was affecting many Western countries.

Holland had developed its welfare programme during the economic boom of the 1950s and 1960s, with strong support from the Christian Democrats and the labour movement. The financial insecurity of a market economy had been abolished; and such sudden shocks as illness or unemployment had no adverse effect on income, he said.

Only 6 per cent of the population lived in poverty in 1979, according to the Dutch definition, compared with Britain's 20 per cent. Dutch unemployment was soaring, it was pointed out, the British level at 10 per cent.

The second tail, the one which intrigues astronomers most, was formed by escaping gas. The gas molecules apparently left the surface of the comet at much higher velocities than the dust particles and were, therefore, scarcely affected by the radiation pressure which influenced the shape of the dust particles. It appeared as if the tails were being blown away from the comet by a wind from the sun with a speed of more than 500 km a second.

The "solar wind" was a plasma, an electrical gas. All the particles in it were electrically charged, half of them with a positive charge, and half with a negative charge. The comet's gas was also a plasma.

The scientists wanted to measure what happened when two very different plasmas, the solar wind and cometary gas, met. Dr Johnstone said.

Many chemical reactions were believed to take place, some under the influence of sunlight to make the cometary gas into a complex mixture. But, since the cometary gas was in the solid state, one of Giotto's tasks was to try to find the current molecules from which the atoms and molecules had come.

## Hattersley formula for equality

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley elaborated yesterday on what is becoming the favourite theme of his campaign for the Labour Party, leadership - equality of outcome rather than equality of opportunity.

Speaking to the education section on "Challenges of the Eighties: Pursuit of Equality", Mr Hattersley called for a campaign on all fronts to "compensate the underprivileged and to limit the ability of the rich and powerful to exploit their riches and power."

He attacked the idea that "something called equality of opportunity could be created without equality itself. People who believed that 'admitted a race which was inevitably won by the strong'."

Relief in equality of opportunity is experienced most often in education, Mr Hattersley said. It "has been developed into the myth that education can in itself be an instrument of liberation."

"That is tragically untrue," he continued. "Without changes in the structure of society and

Mr Hattersley

the distribution of wealth education can do little or nothing to alter our class pattern."

There must be action to change the social factors giving the middle classes a head start, Mr Hattersley said. "Without attempting to organize equality of outcome there can be no social mobility."

Mr Hattersley claimed that a practical programme for achieving equality of outcome would not be difficult to construct.

## New hormones that could trigger a revolution

By Clive Cookson

Genetic engineering will have a revolutionary impact within a few years on a wide range of human activities - from breeding new strains of wheat to producing microbes to help to extract the two thirds of the world's waste oil reserves that cannot be recovered with current technology.

Dr James Chadwick, medical adviser to the biotechnology industry, told the association's science section at the annual meeting.

"We stand on the threshold of a laboratory revolution," he said.

He described particularly a new technique produced by genetic engineering. Microbes have already produced large quantities of two important hormones - insulin and growth hormone. But Dr Chadwick

was most excited by the prospect of making some of the recently discovered brain hormones in cultures of genetically engineered bacteria or animal cells.

A molecule called pancreatic endorphin could be a powerful pain reliever. It can pass through the blood-brain barrier and is therefore biologically active when injected into the blood.

"This molecule has had its gene sequence analysed and cloned in bacteria, and work is under way to produce this in sufficiently large quantities to put into clinical trials," Dr Chadwick said.

Other brain hormones may be able to alleviate depression and even overcome learning or memory problems.

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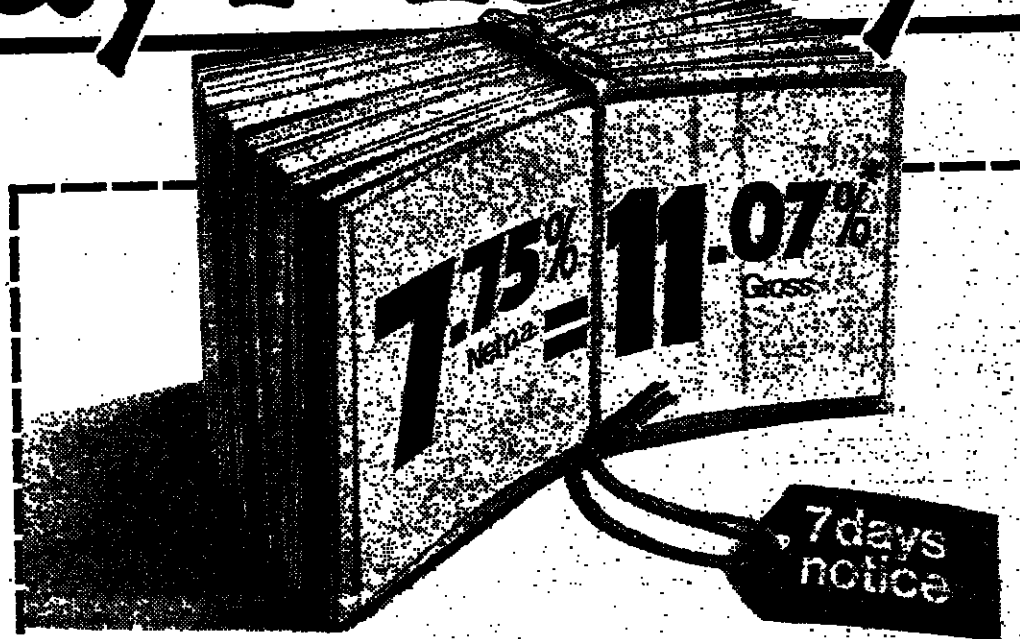
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Widow flies in for funeral

# Aquino assassination inquiry ordered

Manila (Reuters) — President Marcos of the Philippines last night announced that a special commission would investigate the murder of Benigno Aquino.

Mr Aquino was shot dead at the airport as he arrived from three years of self-imposed exile on Sunday.

The President's announcement came as the opposition leader's widow, Corason, arrived from the United States with her son and four daughters for his funeral.

"This is a sad day for me, I will say more after seeing my husband", she said at the airport. The family, some of them in tears, were welcomed by relatives and friends and were surrounded by security guards as they left the airport.

The presidential statement said the Government was offering a reward of about \$30,000 for information leading to the arrest of the killer or killers. The special commission would have powers "for a free, unlimited and exhaustive investigation into all aspects of the tragedy". No timing was given for the start of the inquiry.

Demands for an independent inquiry have come from the opposition in Parliament, notably from Mr Francisco Tatad, an independent opposition figure and President Marcos's Information Minister for 10 years.

The palace statement said the commission, headed by chief justice Enrique Fernandez and comprising four other Supreme Court judges, would be empowered to call witnesses and other evidence.

Shortly before the statement was issued, the Manila police chief, Major-General Prospero Olivas, said investigations had produced no clues to the identity of the alleged assassin.



Face in the crowd: Mrs Aquino arriving in Manila last night.

shot dead at the airport by security men.

He said police had been unable to trace ownership of the man's .357 magnum and it would take time to identify his fingerprints if he has a criminal record.

A US congressman said yesterday that President Reagan should not decide whether to go ahead with his planned trip to the Philippines until further

information was available on the murder.

Mr Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House of Representatives subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific affairs, interrupted a tour of South-East Asia to return to Manila and express condolences to the widow and family of Mr Aquino, a personal friend.

Asked about a White House statement that Washington was

not considering cancelling Mr Reagan's November visit because of the killing, he said: "It would be premature to make any final decision at this time until further information is made available on the murder."

In Tokyo, the Japanese journalist who claims Philippine security men shot Mr Aquino, said he may ask Colonel Gaddafi of Libya to help to establish his case.

## Whitehall studying 'junta for trial' claim

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Western diplomats were last night studying a report that leading members of the Argentine Government during last year's Falklands conflict are likely to face trial.

The report, in the Buenos Aires Eronist newspaper *La Voz*, said this was the main recommendation of an official military inquiry set up after the Argentine defeat.

The first reaction of diplomats in Buenos Aires was to accept the report as genuine, but there was no confirmation last night in Whitehall, whose only contact with the Buenos Aires government is through a small interests section in the Swiss Embassy.

Not only General Leopoldo Galtieri and the other two members of the military junta, but also Señor Nicenor Costa Mendez, the former Foreign Minister, and General Mario Benjamín Menéndez, who was appointed governor of the Falklands after the Argentine invasion, have been recommended for trial by the inquiry, according to the newspaper.

● **BUENOS AIRES:** Military sources said recently that the inquiry had concluded that Argentina handled the conflict badly from the start to finish (Reuters reports).

Although the alleged report placed prime responsibility for the conduct of Argentina's diplomacy on the junta, it severely criticized Señor Costa Mendez for being short-sighted and rigid.

He was informed of the junta's intention to use force as an option for gaining control of the Falklands when he was appointed in December 1981. He was told on March 23, 1982, 10 days in advance, that an invasion was going ahead, and he agreed to the plan on condition that Argentina's seizure of the islands should be used as the basis for a subsequent negotiated settlement with Britain.

He did not make the junta understand that Britain might well refuse to negotiate when faced with the completed military action.

It also blamed Señor Costa Mendez for failing to see that the United States would side with Britain in the conflict and for being too rigid in his interpretation of Argentine sovereignty in negotiations to try to avert a military clash with Britain.

## Man in the news

# Britain to lose a Senate friend

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

The decision by Senator John Tower (Republican, Texas) not to seek reelection next year not only removes from the Senate an outspoken conservative and an ardent campaigner for increased military spending, but will also deprive Britain of one of its leading champions in the US Congress.

During the Falklands crisis last year Senator Tower was the first prominent figure in the United States to speak up openly in support of Britain.

At a time when the US was still trying to act as a mediator between Britain and Argentina, Senator Tower reminded the Reagan Administration of its obligations towards its closest ally if American peace efforts failed. In the event, the US did come out in open support of Britain once the fighting started.

"Congress could have made life very difficult for us if it had



Mr Tower: Pinstripe suits and British cigarettes

wanted to," a British diplomat commented yesterday, referring to the military assistance the United States gave to Britain during the fighting. "Fortunately, American sentiment was heavily in our favour, thanks to the influence of people like John Tower."

Senator Tower, who is 57, looks more like an Englishman

than the son of an itinerant preacher who grew up in the lumber towns of eastern Texas. He favours pinstripe suits and British-made cigarettes and attributes his "global views" to the two years he spent as a graduate student at the London School of Economics in the early 1950s when, he notes, Britain still had an empire.

Senator Tower, who took over Lyndon Johnson's seat in the Senate 27 years ago, is the second most senior Republican in the Upper House and chairman of the Senate's key armed services committee. In this latter capacity he has fought hard to push through President Reagan's defence programme, particularly the controversial MX missile.

His decision not to stand again next year came as a surprise, although it has been noted that he faced a particularly tough fight in a state which by tradition is overwhelmingly Democratic.

## Kohl firm despite poll on missiles

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl yesterday forcefully restated his Government's commitment to deploy new Nato missiles in West Germany and to stick to the planned timetable.

His statements, made in an interview with the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, were published the day after the results of a poll which showed that three quarters of German people are opposed to the new missiles being deployed even if there is no agreement at the Geneva arms talks by the autumn.

The Chancellor said no one could doubt Bonn's determination to install missiles if there was no tangible result in Geneva by November.

"Even a conceivable interim agreement, which I still think is possible — and we will do everything to render our contribution — does not make a weapons mix dispensable", he added, underlining his firm rejection of a waiver of the Pershing 2 missiles.

He had reason to believe in "intensive negotiations" in the next round, and called on the Soviet Union to take the necessary steps now, including the dropping of the demand to include British and French missiles. It was only, he said, the "walk in the woods"

compromise — a suggestion that went down badly with the Americans.

His tough stand is intended to be the German reply to the Greek call for a delay of six months in the timetable for deployment. But the Chancellor must also be alarmed by the force of anti-nuclear sentiment in his own country, which was strikingly shown by a poll commissioned by the ZDF television channel in July.

This showed that 75.5 per cent of all West Germans are in favour of further negotiations and against deployment — an increase over the 62 per cent who opposed the missiles in an earlier poll. Even 61 per cent of Christian Democrats and 71 per cent of Free Democrats, whose parties constitute the Government, shared this view.

The Christian Democratic Union quickly questioned these results, saying the question was missing whether the West Germans wanted to go on being threatened by the Soviet SS20 missiles.

Meanwhile, a polling agency has confirmed that the US information agency has commissioned a poll in West Germany to find out whether Dr Kohl can push through the deployment issue at home.

## Chemical weapons hope dashed

From Alan McGregor Geneva

High hopes for an early treaty prohibiting chemical weapons have been dashed as the 40-nation United Nations Disarmament Committee concludes its 1983 session.

The American assessment is one of meagre and disappointing results, with "an effective ban not much closer than it was a year ago".

While asserting that United States Congressional approval for the binary weapons production programme "kills those talks", the Russians are simultaneously urging much more intensive negotiations when the committee begins its 1984 session in early February.

The Russians contend that the Americans are excessively rigid on the crucial issue of verification, but the Russians have been very slow to follow up their acceptance last year of the concept of on-site inspection by clarifying what they have in mind.

Their intention of leaving many points to be settled at a later stage is anathema to the United States which wants verification procedure details clear cut.

## Crucial day for Malta at Madrid conference

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Intensive contacts went on yesterday among delegations to the 35-nation European Security Review conference before today's crucial meeting set by Spain for Malta to drop its stubborn stand which has held up a concluding meeting at foreign ministers level early next month.

All the nations, except Malta, reached agreement on a final document on East-West relations on July 15. Malta has held out for greater attention to

Mediterranean security problems.

The centrepiece of this East-west gathering, the first since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979, would be the encounter between Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

A subsequent concluding session of the nearly three-year old meeting would be held separately.

## Swiss Army chooses a German tank

From Our Correspondent, Geneva

The Swiss Army's new combat tank is to be the West German Leopard 2. Not the American M1 Abrams. This decision was approved yesterday by the Swiss Cabinet.

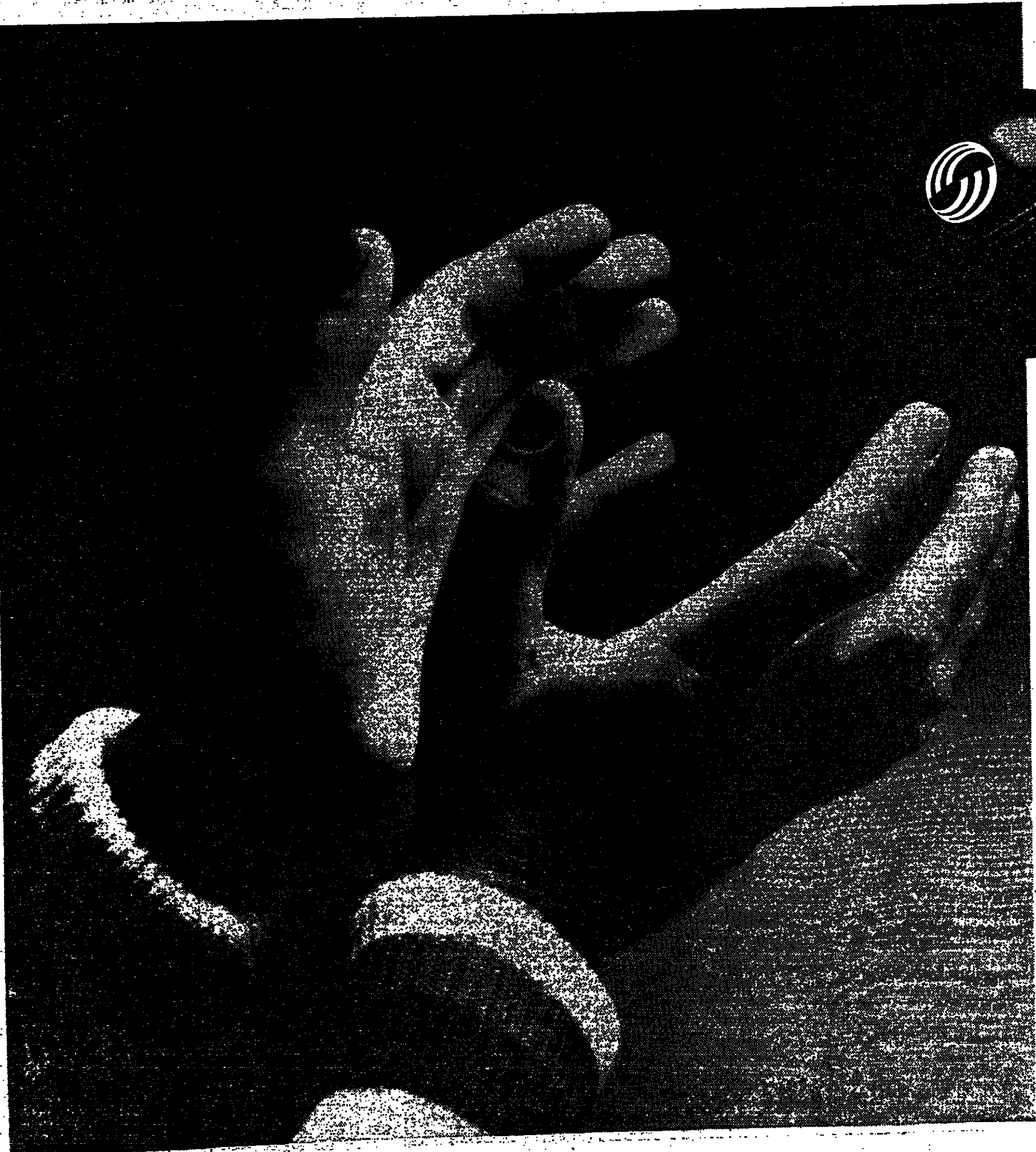
2,500m Swiss franc (£796m) credit is being opened for a first series of 210, of which 35 will be imported direct from the manufacturers, Kraus Maffei, Munich and 175 will be constructed under licence in Switzerland.

This initial sum will also

cover servicing and maintenance equipment for a further 210 tanks, built under licence. Deliveries will be spaced over 15 years.

Technical evaluation of the two tanks started more than two years ago, with two models of each under test.

The arrangement for manufacture under licence will give the West German tank a price advantage. The Leopard 2 was also judged to be more "technically mature".



## One opportunity that must not slip through Britain's fingers.

Twenty-five years ago, Britain's civil aircraft industry led the world with programmes like the Comet and the Viscount.

The all-new Airbus A320, the world's most advanced jetliner, will give British industry the opportunity to demonstrate itself a leader once again.

The remarkable A320, on which Britain will stake its aerospace future, is currently under the microscope of many key airlines around the world. Alongside it are some American derivatives whose basic technology stretches back to the early sixties.

At least 6000 British high-tech workers conscious of their future consider this unequal comparison is hardly fair competition.

 Airbus



## Turkish poll restricted to three parties at end of approval deadline

From Rasit Gurdlek, Ankara

Only three parties will be able to contest the Turkish elections, set for November 6, because no others were able to meet the requirements of having by yesterday at least 30 approved founders and being organized in at least 34 of the 67 provinces.

The parties which qualified are the right-centre National List Democracy Party, headed by Mr Turgut Sunalp, a former General, and reputed to be enjoying the full backing of the ruling military; the conservative Motherland Party of former Deputy Prime Minister and economy chief Mr Turgut Ozal; and the Populist Party, which claims to represent the social democrats, headed by Mr Neadet Calp, a former provincial governor.

The rest of the 14 parties established since last May to replace ones banned after the army coup in September 1980, were excluded.

Among the excluded are the conservative Right Way Party and the social democrat Sodep. Both were left short of the required number of founders because of vetoes by the ruling National Security Council last Friday on the alternative names they had proposed, although they had easily organized in all the provinces.

Seen by the electorate as the true inheritors of the pre-coup Justice Party and the Republican People's Party, the Right Way and Sodep had been confidently claiming the support of 10 and 9 million voters respectively, which together nearly equals the total of 19.6 million Turks declared eligible to vote.

The latest vetoes elicited strong protests from the former Sodep leader, Mr Erdal Inonu and the Right Way chairman, Mr Yildirim Ayvi, that the poll and the form of government to follow would be anything but democratic.

The protest has prompted an investigation - which may lead to a prosecution - against Mr Inonu, son of Ismet Inonu the soldier and statesman.

The three parties allowed to enter the poll will compete for some 400 seats in a single-chamber Grand National Assembly to be elected for a five-year term. But candidates will also have to run the gauntlet of vetoes by the National Security Council. Parties will have to secure at least 10 per cent of the votes cast to be represented in Parliament.

The National Security Council and the Quasi-parliamentary Consultative Assembly will be

disbanded upon the inauguration of parliament, but President Kenan Evren, vested with sweeping powers by the new constitution adopted last November, will still have a dominant position above it for six more years.

The main contest is expected to be between the Nationalist Democracy Party, on whose ticket Mr Bulend Ulasu, the Prime Minister, and four ministers will run as independent candidates, and the Motherland Party, which is credited with rapidly-growing support.

Voting is compulsory, on pain of heavy fines. President Evren has been constantly warning people against "the instructions of former politicians for them to cast blank votes".

The leader of the two main excluded parties have reacted calmly. Yesterday Mr Cezmi Kartay, the Sodep chairman, said exclusion of his party would not mean the cessation of its activities. A spokesman for the Right Way said a statement would be issued after a meeting of party executives.

Political observers expect the leading figures of both parties to run as independent candidates.

## Iran settles debt to US bank

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Iran has paid \$419.5 (£280m) it owed to the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Treasury Department announced here.

It is the biggest debt settlement that Iran has made to American banks under the January 1981 agreement for the release of 52 American hostages held in Iran for 444 days.

As part of the hostages agreement, \$1.418m was put in a Bank of England escrow

account to cover settlements of claims of United States banks for loans to the pre-revolutionary Government of the Shah.

Iran has also settled claims of 19 other American commercial banks.

The 20 settlements have drawn down the escrow account by about \$895.9m.

In return for the latest payment, the federally supported Export-Import Bank has withdrawn claims pending at an

Iran-US claims tribunal, which was established under the hostages agreement.

The Treasury announcement said that the Export-Import Bank would receive \$419.5m in payment on its non-syndicated debt claims against Iran.

The announcement also said that other US banks have been meeting Bank Markazi representatives in London and were in the process of negotiating their respective claims



Dressed to kill: Lieutenant-General Abdul-Halim Abu Ghazala, the Egyptian Defence Minister, left, and US Lieutenant-General Robert Kingston reviewing joint manoeuvres yesterday in the Western Desert.

## Nightmare stops an airliner

Ankara (AFP) - A West German passenger forced a Turkish airliner to return to Istanbul shortly after take-off on Tuesday when he apparently awoke from a nap and mistook a nightmare for reality, the newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine* reported.

Herr Wolfgang Stroppe, from Munich, leapt out of his seat, shouting there was a bomb on the aircraft, which returned to Yesilkoy airport.

A search of the suitcase to which Herr Stroppe pointed revealed not a bomb but a bottle of raki, a potent local liquor. He said he had fallen asleep before take-off and dreamt that a bomb was hidden in the suitcase and woke up shouting in terror.

He was arrested and an investigation has been opened by the authorities.

## Top man's surrender blow to Solidarity

Warsaw (Reuters, AP) - The Polish Authorities yesterday questioned Mr Wladyslaw Hardek, a leading figure in the Solidarity underground whose decision to surrender to police was the biggest setback yet to the banned trade union.

His appearance on state television on Tuesday night, reading a statement renouncing further underground activity as pointless, raised questions about the future of the struggle by activists in hiding to promote the ideals of the movement.

It was clearly a blow to opposition morale and followed a weak response to a call for a go-slow as part of protests marking the third anniversary of the strikes and agreements that led to the birth of the union in 1980.

Official sources in Cracow, where Mr Hardek operated as the regional underground leader, said he was interviewed at the military prosecutor's office. He reported to police earlier this week.

They believed he would be freed soon under the terms of an amnesty declared when martial law was lifted last month, offering activists freedom from prosecution if they surrendered and made statements of their offences.

Solidarity figures in Warsaw speculated that Mr Hardek may have been captured by the authorities and threatened with a stiff jail term if he refused to announce his "surrender".

Mr Lech Walesa, chairman of Solidarity, questioned about Mr Hardek as he left the Gdansk shipyard, said, "I don't speculate about things like that. I am just not going to talk about it."

## Suicide note reveals Nazi's fear

Bonn (Reuters) - A former Nazi officer poisoned himself because he could not face being tried for the deaths of hundreds of French Jews, according to a suicide note. A spokesman for the Bonn State District Court said yesterday that Richard-Whitman, 74, claimed that he had been a tool of the Nazis under orders and knew nothing of the annihilation of the Jews until after the war.

Herr Freise, an SS officer had been charged with being an accessory to the murder of 1,372 Jews.

Three other SS officers, Walter Nachrich, aged 74; Modest Graf Korff, aged 73; and Rolf Bilharz, aged 74, have been accused of aiding in the murder of 73,000 French Jews who were deported between March 1942 and 1944. They are due to stand trial in October.

● **Gypsies gassed:** A retired West German medical director, Helmut Ratzel, aged 65, has been charged with being an accessory to the murder of gypsies exposed to experimental war gases in the Nazi concentration camp of Natzweiler, Alsace in 1944.

● **BOSTON:** A US lawyer said here that the accused Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie worked for the intelligence services of several countries apart from the United States after the Second World War (Reuters reports). Mr John Loftus, who prosecuted the Nazis for the US Justice Department refused to identify them.

## Chad says rebels are advancing

Ndjamena (Reuters) - Two columns of rebels backed by Libyan armour in northern Chad are advancing towards two government outposts, the Chad Information Minister, Mr Soumaila Mahamat, said yesterday.

He said the columns, each including up to 1,500 Libyan troops and around 100 Soviet-built T62 and T72 tanks, were moving along two roads which lead to the capital through the semi-desert region. There had been no fighting yet, he said.

The Western column was moving on Koro-Toro, which lies 125 miles north of the government garrison at Salal, where an estimated 100 French paratroopers are also stationed.

The eastern column was heading for Oum Chalouba, 190 miles south-east of the oasis town of Faya-Largeau which the rebels captured two weeks ago and turned into a major base.

Koro-Toro is deserted but the government still has troops at Oum Chalouba, although Western diplomatic sources here say they believe it is indefensible.

Life for French troops at Salal is so tough they will have to be rotated, to prevent mental problems, an Italian journalist says.

Signor Lucio Lani of the Milan Newspaper *Il Giornale*, the only journalist so far to reach Salal, said the outpost consists of 15 mud houses clustered around a single well.

● **PARIS:** France wants a peaceful settlement to the crisis but this implies a position of strength in the field, our government spokesman, M Max Gallo, said here (AFP reports). He added that above all Chad was an African affair and it was up to the Africans to resolve it, perhaps within the Organization of African Unity.

● **NAIROBI:** M Maurice Fauré, chairman of the French National Assembly's foreign affairs committee, arrived in Addis Ababa with a message from president Mitterrand on the crisis for Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian leader and current OAU chairman (AFP reports).

● **CHAD:** A map showing the location of the conflict zone in Chad, with labels for Faya-Largeau, Oum Chalouba, Koro-Toro, and Salal.

## BAOR men accused of armed robbery

Bonn - Three soldiers from the First Battalion the Irish Guards are being held in British military custody in Munster after being arrested by German police on charges of armed robbery. (Michael Hayton writes)

The three men, whose names have not been given, are alleged to have raided a petrol station on June 30 using British Army Sterling sub-machine guns, and stolen cigarettes, sweets and DM 2,000 (£300) in cash. They were said to have been caught after fleeing in a car which then crashed.

A spokesman for the British Army of the Rhine said a military investigation was now complete, and the Army was waiting to see whether the West German authorities would waive their jurisdiction.

## Sinatra sues

Las Vegas (Reuters) - Frank Sinatra is seeking \$10m (£6.6m) damages from a nightclub here called "Sinatras", alleging that the owners, the brothers Duane, Dennis and Paul Sinatra, misappropriated his name and were trying to mislead the public. The singer has a new contract to perform exclusively at a hotel and casino three blocks away.

## Kidnapped

Napito (Reuters) - Two Soviet technicians have been killed and 24 kidnapped in Mozambique in the continuing harassment of foreign aid specialists by opponents of the Mozambique Government. A number of Mozambicans were also seized in the raid on a tantalum mine at Morima, Soviet sources said.

## Mafia dug in

Rome (Reuters) - It will be the year 2000 before the Mafia is defeated, Signor Emanuele De Francesco, the special commissioner charged with fighting the criminal network, said in an interview. The Mafia mentality remained deeply entrenched and had to be tackled in schools, but this would take time.

## Nevis in step

Basseterre (Reuters) - The coalition Government of the St Kitts-Nevis Minister, Mr Kennedy Simmonds, made a clean sweep of all five seats in a new legislative assembly to handle affairs on the smaller island of Nevis after the twin-island state gains independence on September 19.

## A-waste block

Brussels (Reuters) - Belgium and Switzerland have suspended indefinitely the disposal of 3,700 tonnes of radioactive waste in the Atlantic because of a dumping boycott by British seamen. The British company under contract cannot raise a crew.

## Shagari victory

Lagos (AFP) - President Shagari's National Party of Nigeria has won 55 of the 85 federal Senate seats contested last Saturday. Voting for the remaining 11 seats was put off because of violence or electoral irregularities.

## Queen foiled

Johannesburg - Judgment in an application to the Swaziland High Court by Queen Dndwe to make her dismissal as Queen Regent declared illegal was withheld after a proclamation that royal affairs were beyond the prerogative of the courts.

## Children killed

Cologne (Reuters) - Eight people, including five children, died and five others were injured in a three-car crash near Cologne on Tuesday night. A tyre on one of the vehicles burst.

## Nepal epidemic

Katmandu (AP) - Twenty-four more people have died of the gastro-enteritis in Nepal, bringing the number of deaths from the disease to 95 in the past two weeks. Doctors have been sent to affected areas to deal with the epidemic, which is spreading.

## School falls

Taipei (Reuters) - Twenty-two students were killed and 63 injured when a school at Feng Yuan, 100 miles south of Taipei, collapsed during opening ceremonies for the new term. Rescue workers feared more bodies might be found.

## Drugs arrest

Amsterdam (AFP) - Police arrested a 31-year-old Londoner, identified only by his initials "LRS", in connection with a narcotics haul in central Amsterdam earlier this week in which 770 lb of hashish were seized.

## Catalan JR

Barcelona (AD) - From mid-September the American television series *Dallas* is to be shown throughout Catalonia dubbed in Catalan. Spaniards who do not speak this regional language will be out of luck.

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محکمات الاصل







# Knight of the stars



The Times Profile: Sir Bernard Lovell at 70

moreover...  
Miles Kingston

## More lines on parking

The story so far: Seamus Dally, car-hire millionaire and would-be broadcaster, is accused of removing a double yellow line in order to park without charge. He denies the charge stoutly, as who wouldn't. Now read on. You never know it might happen to you.

Counsel: Mr Dally, the court has heard the police witness describe how the whole street was covered in a double yellow line. It has also heard you say that there was a gap in the double yellow line large enough for you to park in. Who do you honestly expect the court to believe, you or the police?

Defendant: Me.

Counsel: Yes, well, fair enough. Still, I think you ought to offer some explanation of this gap in the yellow line, don't you?

Defendant: It strikes me that so far the court has concentrated entirely on the absence of a double yellow line beneath my car, and has assumed that because it wasn't there, it must have been removed.

Judge: What other possible explanation is there?

Defendant: There is another theory that has not even been considered by the court so far, and that is that the yellow line was there all the time - but was not visible!

Counsel: Could you explain that?

Defendant: There is nothing easier than to buy a roll of black sticky tape and to spread it out over the double yellow line in such a way that it entirely covers the paint and looks like a bit of road, potholes and all.

Counsel: So that's what you did!

Judge: So that's the way it was!

Defendant: Not at all. You merely asked me for another explanation and I have given you one. I neither removed the yellow line nor covered it up. However, there is yet another theory...

Judge: Great stuff! I love theories. It's facts I can't handle.

Defendant: I would like to call a witness.

Judge: Defendants can't call witnesses, not if they're already in the witness stand.

Defendant: We can in Ireland. Call William Carstairs! (After a bit of shuffling, Mr Carstairs sits on to the witness stand with the defendant.) You are William Carstairs, a road-painter?

Carstairs: I was then.

Defendant: When?

Carstairs: In 1980, the year you are going to ask me about, when I painted Sears Roebuck Road and to end with a double yellow line.

Defendant: Could you tell the court how you arrived at your work?

Carstairs: I drove there.

Defendant: And where did you leave your car?

Carstairs: In Sears Roebuck Road, of course. It was the only free street for miles.

Defendant: Did you paint yellow lines under your car?

Carstairs: No, I left it till later, so that when I moved the car - oh, blimey! You're right! I clean forgot to go back and paint that bit. Stone me!

Defendant: And there, gentlemen of the jury, you have it. The yellow lines were never there in the first place. In fact, I myself went back the next day and painted the lines in, voluntarily. Alone of all the yellow lines in London, that short stretch is not the property of the Metropolitan Police, it belongs to me.

Judge: If I have got this straight, a man stands here accused of taking something which was never there, and even if it had been there, it would have been his own property. Who says that British justice is not the most wonderful in the world? Case dismissed!

Clerk: My Lord, we have just had a message from the outside world. It's from the BBC, and they say that one of their employees, a Mr Henry Kelly, is not feeling well. They ask if the defendant is free to stand by to replace him...

Defendant: Lord be praised! It's my big break! Hallelujah!

(Readers who like happy endings may be interested to know that the Seamus Dally Show will be one of the BBC's big autumn offerings.)

The walls of the observing room at Jodrell Bank are made up of banks of amplifiers, cables and computers, which analyse and record the signals picked up by the big dish. It was here, last thing at night for his three decades as director of the Nuffield Radio Astronomy Laboratories, that Sir Bernard Lovell would end his day, checking on the work in progress, offering advice and encouragement to the few remaining staff.

And it is Jodrell Bank which is Lovell's most tangible achievement and the most obvious evidence of his position as a major figure in international astronomy.

Born in Gloucestershire, Lovell graduated from Bristol university and in 1936 became assistant lecturer in physics at Manchester university, where he came under the considerable influence of Professor Patrick Blackett.

Lovell's early research was with cosmic rays, the nuclei of atoms which hurtle through space. But like many other academics of his time he soon became involved in the development of radar (radio detection and range). On September 3, 1939, the day that Chamberlain broadcast the news that Britain was at war, Lovell was working in the operations room of an early warning station at Saxton Wold in Yorkshire.

He was part of a team developing radar for airborne interception (AI), enabling night fighters to locate enemy aircraft and manoeuvre within visual range. It was through working with radar during the war that Lovell also became familiar with the experimental problems of working with radio waves.

As the war continued, Lovell was placed in charge of another crucial radar development. Night bombing of Germany was proving ineffective. Two thirds of all crews failed to strike within five miles of their targets. The project, codenamed H2S, was the development of a radar "blind bombing" system to help pilots find their targets, but the system was bedevilled by problems.

On July 3, 1942 however, Lovell and his colleagues met Winston Churchill in the Cabinet Room. Churchill demanded that the blind bombing apparatus be operational by October, a seemingly impossible task. But at the end of the year a system was working. By the end of 1943, 32,000 out of 53,000 sorties were led by H2S aircraft. The same system could also detect submarines surfacing under cover of night. Hitler confessed that "the temporary setback in our U-boat campaign is due to a single technical invention of our enemies".

Lovell later said that he found his wartime experiences frustrating. At the end of the war, exhausted by six years of intense pressure, he returned to Manchester with two trailers of surplus radar equipment and a diesel with frozen fuel pipes. He set up a primitive station south of the city with two gardeners of the university's botanical grounds for company. The land once belonged to William Jauderell, who had fought with the Black Prince at Poitiers.

Some time before this, Lovell had suggested to Blackett that the rapid and transient echoes seen by coastal defence and airborne radar might be reflections from cosmic ray showers. Together they drew up a famous paper *Radio echoes and cosmic ray showers* (Blackett rewrote Lovell's first draft in a Westminster shelter during an air raid). The echoes turned out not to be from cosmic rays but from meteors and on October 9, 1946, Lovell observed an intense meteor shower.

His work soon demonstrated that the strongly held belief that sporadic meteors came from outside our solar system was wrong. Meteors are pieces of rocky debris that circle the sun, ranging in size from the microscopic upwards. When one no bigger than a pinhead enters the earth's atmosphere it burns up, becoming a familiar

"shooting star". Radar enabled much fainter and even daytime meteors to be detected. Later Lovell was to write a classic textbook on the subject.

In 1946, construction began of a 218ft diameter fixed parabolic telescope consisting of fields of wires. This telescope contributed much to the reemergence of radio astronomy after the Second World War.

By 1948, Lovell had plans for a 250ft fully steerable dish. After a meeting at Edinburgh university, where Lovell presented his case, Sir Edward Appleton recorded: "All present were emphatic that every effort should be made to erect such a steerable instrument in Great Britain". In 1950 support came from astronomical and governmental quarters and in 1952 Husband and Company of Sheffield and London were appointed as engineers. Work began that autumn.

Ten thousand tons of reinforced concrete were poured into the foundations and eventually 2,000 tons of metal made up the superstructure. But the construction of the "big dish" was far from straightforward. The escalating costs became the subject of a House of Commons committee. Delays, mounting costs, increasing debts and bureaucracy wove a 10-year nightmare of intractable problems around Lovell, threatening at one time to send him to prison for alleged overspending of government money.

There was bitter opposition from other university departments and from Manchester corporation. But the public rallied and contributed £500,000 of the £850,000 cost. Although huge at the time, these sums were tiny compared to those spent on the US and Russian space programmes.

The first radio waves were picked up on August 2, 1957. Two months later the Russians launched Sputnik 1.

Lovell was in the right place at the right time and had an instrument that could vastly outperform anything else. One small radar echo confounded the opponents of Jodrell Bank, who were calling it a costly and technological white elephant. Jodrell Bank produced not only radar trackings of the first ever artificial satellite, but also its

carrier rocket, the first ever intercontinental ballistic missile. Nothing in the US or the USSR could match the big dish.

Later Jodrell was to pull off another coup. It transmitted signals to the American Pioneer V deep space probe to release it from its carrier rocket. The big dish was the only one capable of establishing radio contact with the probe at a distance of more than 22 million miles. Afterwards, a telephone call came from Lord Nuffield:

"Is that Lovell?" "Yes, my lord."

"How much is still owing on the telescope?" "About £50,000."

"Is that all, I want to pay it off."

Lovell was left speechless. It was Jodrell's contribution to astronomy. However, that kept it at the forefront of science for decades. Radio echoes from the moon gave a new accuracy to the measurement of the solar system. The telescope did much to investigate the shape and rotation of our own Milky Way. Because radio light is scarce compared to optical light it can traverse vast distances through space. Jodrell Bank measured the positions of radio sources that were found to be the most distant and energetic objects known in

the universe. These were called quasars and are exploding galaxies half a universe away.

I first met Lovell when I was a research student at Jodrell Bank. I was the junior member of the team headed by Lovell which looked for explosions on the surfaces of nearby stars - explosions similar to the solar flares seen on the sun.

Over the past decade the emphasis of research at Jodrell Bank has shifted away from the use of the single big dish to explore the universe. Jodrell pioneered a technique called radio interferometry whereby two small dishes some distance apart can be electronically connected in such a way as to perform like a single large dish of a size equal to the distance between them. Jodrell now has an array of telescopes throughout England and Wales which it uses to emit signals of a strength equal to that of an enormous single telescope.

Lovell's stewardship of what is perhaps Britain's most famous centre for science has not gone without criticism. A recent research team from the University of Sussex compared Jodrell Bank with three other centres of radio astronomy: Cambridge and

two others in Europe. They concluded that Jodrell performed poorly in the years 1969-78.

Lovell counters by arguing that this 10-year period is an unrepresentative "snapshot" and that it is misleading to compare Jodrell and Cambridge, since they are two aspects of the same national radio astronomy programme. Lovell points out that in 1967 he and other top radio astronomers took a policy decision to delay the re-equipping of Jodrell Bank and to build an array of telescopes at Cambridge.

In 1981, when Lovell handed over the directorship of Jodrell to Professor Graham Smith - who had left Jodrell in 1974 to become director of the Royal Greenwich Observatory - he pointed out that the big dish had already exceeded its expected 15-year lifetime by 10 years and was good for at least another 20.

Aside from his technical publications, Lovell has written many popular books communicating his understanding as well as his philosophy of nature. He conveys an exciting and positive image of all aspects of science and unlike many science writers is not swayed by fad or fashion. He is a complex and diverse person.

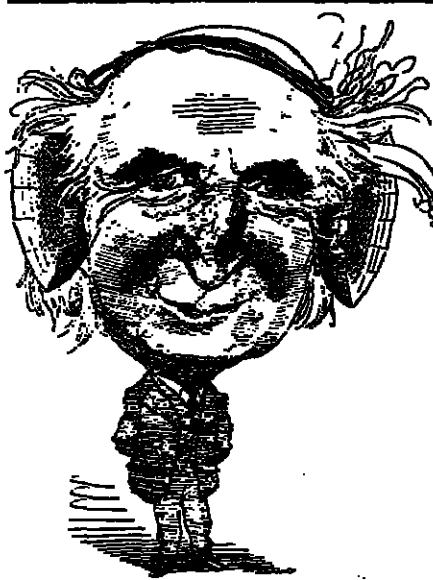
His keen interest in cricket has recently led to an investigation into electronic aids for umpires. He has demonstrated the art of water divining. Other interests include gardening and literature. He is a musician who particularly enjoys Elgar.

His love of his country was exemplified when he said that being away from England in the spring was "a peculiar form of masochism".

Although retired from the directorship of Jodrell Bank, Lovell still continues his researches and writings in an office built for him in the shadow of the big dish. It is true to say that radio astronomy has changed man's conception of the universe. The radio astronomy facilities he built up at Jodrell Bank have played a large role in the widening of horizons. Lovell has called it "the centre of immensities".

David Whitehouse

The author is an astrophysicist at University College London.



As seen by David Levine in 1969

ALFRED CHARLES BERNARD LOVELL  
born August 31, 1913.  
1936 Assistant lecturer in physics at Manchester university.  
1937 Married Mary Joyce Chesterman.  
1939 Development of radar airborne interception system.  
1941 December 28: placed in charge of blind bombing.  
1945 December: returns to Manchester with surplus radio equipment.  
1946 Construction begins of 218ft fixed dish.  
1952 Autumn: Construction of Mark I telescope begins.  
1953 Elected Fellow of Royal Society.  
1957 August 2: Mark I telescope operational.  
1957 October 13: Became first ever professor of radio astronomy.  
1960 March 11: Pioneer 5 contacted at 22 million miles.  
1961 Knighted.  
1969-71 President Royal Astronomical Society.  
1970-78 Vice-president International Astronomical Union.  
1981 October: Retires as director of Jodrell Bank.

## Harpers & Queen

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From time to time, usually several times a day, I am amused, astounded, aghast and/or outraged at the attitudes and opinions of the British public. But no study has had more amusement in my recollection than we at MORI have recently completed for Thomas Cook on the subject of children's attitudes to holidays among a cross-section of eight to twelve year olds throughout Britain. The details will be reported more fully in *The Times* Friday Page tomorrow, so I'll not dwell upon them here, only to tell you my favourite bits.

The first was travelling to the holiday, among those who went by ship, nearly half (44 per cent) thought it "very exciting". But it clearly had its drawbacks one 12-year-old girl told us: "You start to get excited. I love going on ferries, then you start to get ill".

The other finding I liked best was about who chooses where to go. None of the kids we talked to claimed they alone made the choice, but about one in six said they participate in the decision-making to a greater or lesser degree, like the nine-year girl who said: "We have this quiz, who goes where, and my dad normally wins".

### Never on Sunday?

The House Secretary has announced that the Government is to investigate the Sunday trading regulations. And well they might, for according to the work we carried out for the National Consumer Council last year, 62 per cent of the public said they wanted their MPs to vote for a Bill allowing shops to choose when they open and shut.

Hanging is one thing; I do understand that many MPs vote with their conscience in the full knowledge and respect of their constituents' opinions. I do feel, however, that it is less likely to do with conscience and more with the adroit lobbying of MPs by entrenched and well-organized opponents that Ray Whitney's *Private Members' Bill* fell in the last session of Parliament.

### Smoking out

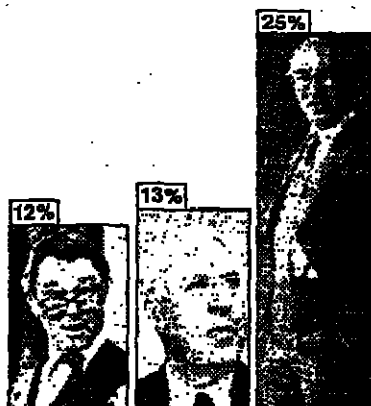


The General Household Survey's 1982 results have just been released by the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys showing a continuing decline in the consumption of cigarettes. In 1972, 52 per cent of the public were smokers. The figure has declined steadily over the decade and now just more than a third, (38 per cent of men and 33 per cent of women) are regular smokers. A third of men and half of women have never (or only very occasionally) smoked.

There is a striking association between cigarette smoking and social class. Only about one in five of those in the professions now smoke, 29 per cent of employers and managers, around four in ten of skilled manual workers but nearly half of unskilled manual workers smoke. Is there less able to afford the expense.

## FINDINGS

A series reporting on research  
PUBLIC OPINION



What do Enoch Powell and Lord (Arnold) Weinstock of GEC have in common? Each is regarded by his peers as the most impressive of the breed. Each year MORI conducts a survey of 100 Members of Parliament and each year we ask our sample of MPs to name the most impressive back benches in the House. Each year the result is the same: Enoch Powell.

Last year Chris Patten was runner-up, but Mrs Thatcher has posted him to the Northern Ireland office so he's disqualified from the competition. This year Ted Heath ran second and Francis Pym was third. Next year Michael Foot, by then no longer leader of the Opposition, will be eligible: wonder if he'll give them a run for their money?

In the past, Lord Weinstock has been judged by a sizable margin to be the most outstanding industrialist by the 200 or so "Captains of Industry" we interview. This year it was a closer race, with "Steel Ian" MacGregor at 12 per cent behind Weinstock, who had 25 per cent of the vote. Sir Michael Edwards coming narrowly third at 12 per cent.

### Gone East



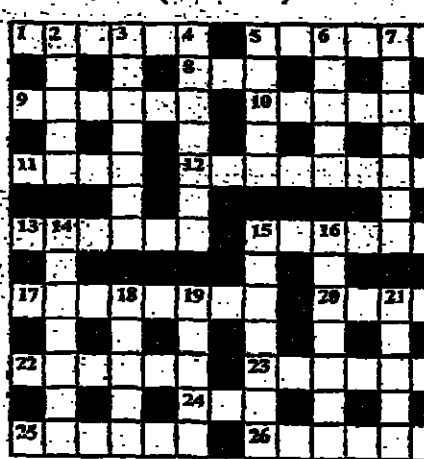
It is holiday time for much of the population. Roads are less crowded, commuter trains less packed, restaurants less busy and generally it seems easier to get about. About 6 per cent of the electorate were away from home on June 9, including 5 per cent who were on holiday and therefore unable to vote at the general election.

According to the 1982 British Tourist Authority's British National Travel Survey, carried out by NOP, 24 per cent of holidays in Britain are taken in August, as are 17 per cent of holidays taken abroad. Two thirds, 66 per cent, of those who went abroad travelled by air, 30 per cent by boat, 3 per cent by Hovercraft and 61 per cent went on package holidays (including "cruises"). Spain/Majorca was still the most popular destination (24 per cent), with France in second place at 14 per cent, Greece 8 per cent, Italy 6 per cent and United States at 5 per cent, down (along with the pound) from 7 per cent last year.

Robert Worcester

The author is managing director of Market Opinion and Research International.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No.133)



ACROSS  
1 Religious scenery (6)  
2 Torture pleasure (6)  
3 Car company (1,1,1)  
4 Carved figure (6)  
5 Care all (6)  
6 More slowly (4)  
7 Study of ideas (3)  
8 Fry (6)  
9 Venerated (6)  
10 Yuletide gold area (8)  
11 Stem cure (4)  
12 Best (6)  
13 Fish and chip shop (6)  
14 Mimic (3)  
15 Lecture hall (6)  
16 Seaman's jacket (6)

DOWN  
1 Frequently (5)  
2 Trough digger (7)  
3 Great failure (1)  
4 Play chapter (5)  
5 Bore hole (5)  
6 Beach gravel (7)  
7 Unfortunate (7)  
8 Sham jacket (7)  
9 Prisoner (7)  
10 Early music symbol (5)  
11 Moslem religion (5)  
12 Cone-shaped tent (5)

SOLUTION TO No.132  
ACROSS: 1 Sawyer 2 Honest 3 Beef 4 Aquarium 5 America 12 Wan 15 Unlucky 16 Platen 17 Gal 19 Schism 24 Kettlebell 25 Fall 26 Smoker 27 Livery  
DOWN: 1 Sobs 2 Whetstone 3 Rista 4 Henri 5 Nark 6 Scuba 10 Riles 11 Atlas 12 Water rate 13 Non 14 Bang 18 Alarm 20 Chair 21 Spel 22 Bell 23 Play



# CHILDREN'S BOOKS

## Brian Alderson hunts the golden hare Selling a million?

**Quest for the Golden Hare**  
by Bamber Gascoigne  
(Cape, £7.95)

In August 1979 the artist Kit Williams buried an 18-carat golden toy in a park at Arundell. A month later Jonathan Cape published his book of largely pictorial clues to its discovery under the title of *Masquerade*. And in February 1982, after a million copies of the book had been sold, a gentleman who called himself Ken Thomas dug the thing up. For everyone involved - not least the tens of thousands of disappointed treasure-hunters - *Masquerade* became a 946 (or 947) day wonder. Now though, with the publication of Bamber Gascoigne's *Quest*, it is to be hoped that the whole episode can be interred a good deal deeper than ever was the hare.

One reason for saying this is the conclusiveness of Mr Gascoigne's story. As the only witness at the start of the performance, and as a self-confessed duffer at puzzles, he is well placed to give a full and a dispassionate account of the *Masquerade* craze and he has taxed this essentially trivial event for all its possible implications. (Not the least of these is man's infinite capacity

for self-delusion.) Moreover, he manages to rib gently both the creators of and the contestants in the craze, so that despite the apparent solidity of his 224-page analysis there is much occasion for quiet comedy.

But a stronger reason for wanting to commit the whole affair to oblivion relates to its baleful effect on the way that people think about picture books. For - as Mr Gascoigne clearly shows - Kit Williams was not really interested in creating a book where words and pictures grow into an organic unity. *Masquerade* was primarily a bound-up collection of paintings, forced into a crude relationship to each other by a remarkably banal text. In essence it was just another example of those picture books so beloved of Central European publishers and Hampstead book-buyers which follow the adage "Never mind the story, just look at the paint".

This view has dominated much picture-book publishing in recent years - although it is now being overtaken by a perverse cult of graphic crudity. ("Never mind the story, look at the social significance.") But here and there one can still pick out a few offerings that owe allegiance to happier traditions of picture-book art.

Among the present batch, I am particularly taken with Pat

the Cat by Colin and Jacqui Hawkins (Bell & Hyman, £2.95). At first glance this seems not just to belong to the Crudity School, but also to incorporate familiar didacticism for it is all about a fat cat on a mat plagued by a bat and a rat. What matters though is the zest with which the authors attack their simple theme and their willingness to engage in self-satire through cheeky asides placed in conversation bubbles.

Crude too, not to say downright vulgar, is Tony Ross with his *Three Pigs* (Andersen Press, £3.95). This is an anarchic modernization of the old tale, accompanied by raw, disorderly illustrations, but Mr Ross has recognized the comic vitality of his source in a way that fully justifies the frenzied invention of his drawings.

Such pugnacity is not present in two much more conventional treatments of traditional stories: Paul Galdone's *What's in Fox's Sack?* (Worlds Work, £3.95) and Anita Lobel's *The Straw Maid* (MacRae, £4.95). But Mr Galdone has long known how to pace a simple tale through the large pages of a picture book, and Mrs Lobel has long had a care for the homely detail of folk-tale illustration, so that both books possess an integrity foreign to gimmicks like *Masquerade*. Contrariwise though, they won't sell a million copies.

Philippa Toomey



## Pictures and play-rhymes for chiro-gymnasts

One of Ian Beck's thirty-ish colour pictures from *Round and Round the Garden*, a collection of play-rhymes made by Sarah Williams (Oxford University Press, £5.95). It's a book which cheerfully combines pictorial entertainment for the child with simple instructions for the parent on how to play these traditional action games, but such expansive treatment necessarily restricts the number of rhymes that can be used.

If you want to see a larger and more varied range of chiro-gymnastics then you should turn to two recent reprints: Norah Montgomerie's *This Little Pig Went to Market* (Bodley Head, £5.95) and a hard back edition of Elizabeth

Matterson's *This Little Puffin* (Kestrel, £5.95). These are both large and systematically organized collections, so full of good things that they make one doubt whether heavy pictorial accompaniment really matters.

Another reissue worth noting is the paperback edition of Barbara Ireson's *Faber Book of Nursery Verse* (Faber, £4.25). It's a book notorious for its dotty page layouts, but these are caused as much as anything by the prodigality and verve of the editor's selection.

B. A.

## Magical plots

**The Genie and Her Bottle**  
By Nina Beachcroft  
(Heinemann, £5.95)

**Well Met by Witchlight; Under the Enchanter; A Visit to Folly Castle; The Wishing People**  
By Nina Beachcroft  
(Dragon Paperbacks, £1.25 each)

When Alex spends the money for her school socks on a stoppered blue bottle in which she thinks she has seen something more, she sets in train a series of comic events which are no less enjoyable for being shaped to a known pattern. As in all Nina Beachcroft's fantasies, the electric possibilities of magic short-circuit on the damping probabilities of daily life. The genie that Alex and her brother Rob set loose - a languid, peremptory Arabian Nights beauty named Leila - is as much trouble to them as Jedis was to Polly and Digory in C. S. Lewis's *The Magician's Nephew*. Though Leila announces "I am your willing slave", it is Alex whose tired arm must give Leila's luxuriant hair the requisite one hundred strokes of the brush.

As any of the children in Nina Beachcroft's books might complain, in instantly recognizable tones, "It's not fair". Her magical plots have none of the portentous mysticism of many of the vogue fantasies of the sixties and seventies; instead she uses magic lightly to explore the theme of control. Her children are dependent - as children really but storybook children rarely are - on adults; and no amount of wishing, magical or otherwise, can make much difference. Rob's discovery in *The Genie and Her Bottle* that "parents could be very disappointing", echoes through Nina Beachcroft's earlier books, now reissued as uniform paperbacks.

The magic, then, gives the children an arena in which they have the opportunity to order

their own lives; but their inexperience at making decisions in the real world translates into a fatal clumsiness at making wishes. The omniscience of parents to whom magic seems only a form of play (which at one level it is) leaves them to sort out the mess for themselves; and, perhaps, to grow up enough to conclude with Martha and Tom at the end of *The Wishing People* that "We didn't really know what we truly wanted".

These are homely books: subject matter not in their treatment of it. The very familiarity of their tone and content makes them somehow forgettable; they do not linger in the mind. And yet in their refusal to play to the gallery, to make everything grand and wonderful or grand and terrible, their willingness to allow "the poetry" to wait if it conflicts with the chance of "a really good game of draughts", they achieve a quiet balance.

They offer, too, in place of originality, a refreshing liveliness of approach. Take, for instance, this splendid piece of invective delivered by the disappointed good witch Mary at first sight of her enemy Mrs Black in *Well Met by Witchlight*: "Poxy piece of a mangy polecat! Pah! Come to see what your miserable hail and wind have done, you cracked silver of a cat's claw! You troad the course of some elemental battle between good and evil, this distasteful would probably delight the children who have clumped up with Mary; spat by a dirty, disreputable old woman at a smart middle-class lady in a leopard-skin coat, in the middle of the village street, it is an acute embarrassment. Like Alex and Rob's genie, Mary is a nuisance as well as a pleasure: the mundane world will not accommodate her. And in the end it is the mundane world, the world of draught and not poetry, which enforces the ordinary happy family life, which enfolds the children and excludes Mary. As Rob puts it, with Leila safely corked up again and bobbing down the Thames, "Here I come, Life!"

Neil Philip

## No ravens by order

**Mortimer's Cross**  
By Joan Aiken  
(Cape, £5.50)

**Cyril Bonhamy and the Great Drain Robbery**  
By Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy  
(Cape, £4.95)

If you ever wondered what difference an illustrator made to the text, you have only to look at the work of Quentin Blake. With Joan Aiken, the fantastical wits are well matched: with Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, the illustrations improve the text.

Mortimer the raven is well known to Jackanory watchers, and he lives with the Jones family in Rainwater Crescent in a dismal part of London - or it could be anywhere in the less than brave new world the planners have created. Ravens are large, threatening birds, and Mortimer is no exception. So awful is he that the Library Committee has gone to the trouble of having a special notice made which reads "No Ravens in the Library. By Order". Arabel Jones, the little girl who loves Mortimer, can never understand why people really don't care for a big black bird who causes nothing but trouble, and only says "Kaaark", or, alternatively "Nevermore".

There are three stories - *The Mystery of Mr Jones's Disap-*

pearing Taxi, *Mortimer's Cross*, and *Mortimer's Portrait on Glass* - and it is an extremely funny book, where everything is pushed to the edge of hysterical farce, yet has a firm foundation in life. Where else would the Kalong bats from the docks meet the Rumbury Tower Heights, a gruesome office block put up at such great expense that no one has ever been able to afford to work in it? Not only a bat hostel, but a robber's hideout, a lair for kidnapers, and a wonderful spot for skateboarding.

Pirate, radios, stolen taxis, holidays in Ireland, even the figure largely, Great Aunt Owen Jones, who comes from Bangor to look after the family when Mum has flu is a splendid creation, and Quentin Blake has created a companion portrait to the terrifying Aunt Fidget. Womankind Strong (who wore iron hats) from Russell Hoban's *Norfolk* saga. They are sisters in spirit, and Great Aunt Owen, in her never-ending battle against germs and dirt, manages to repress the hitherto irrepressible Mortimer by giving him a bath.

Cyril Bonhamy is the hero (if you can describe him as such) of two earlier books, and he is one of those people who, quite innocently, are always in the midst of a huge misunderstanding. He is under the impression he can speak French, and that he is speaking it to the Director of the Public Library in Nice, where he is on holiday with the longest suffering wife in literature, Desirée. He is, in fact, speaking to the head of a gang of international crooks, who are under the impression that Cyril is one of them. How he comes to be on the run from the gendarmes across France and into Belgium, part of the time disguised as a housemaid and

part of the time smelting, very strongly of sewage is one of those things that neither he, nor indeed anyone else, can get absolutely straight. I found the exploits of Cyril just a bit laboured, the fun frantic rather than furious, and the horrible logic of Mortimer and his habitat.

Philippa Toomey

## Real not cardboard

**Healer**  
By Peter Dickinson  
(Gollancz, £5.95)

There is something about spiritualism, clairvoyance and astrology that makes them oddly unsatisfactory topics for novels: it is as if they were too slippery, too eccentric, even as backdrops. Heroes who are in touch with other powers are rarely very endearing.

Peter Dickinson, however, is a superb and reliable storyteller and deft enough with his characters in his new novel for younger readers, *Healer*, to manage not to make them suffer from finding themselves in a faith healing community. As ingredients of the supernatural in the background - increasingly present in his more recent work - in fact only serves to add tension to a fast moving, rather old fashioned, adventure story.

Pinkie is a stout, serious child possessed of a strange gift for healing. Rather inept when it comes to everyday practicalities, she is befriended at school by Barry, an older boy, who mends her glasses and accompanies her on visits to her grandfather.

Pinkie's talents are soon harnessed by a cult leader who marries her widowed mother and installs her - a prisoner - in a country house now turned into an extremely expensive healing centre. Barry, financed by Pinkie's anxious grandfather, tracks her down and engineers her escape. In a great finale, centering around a midnight chase, the two children make their get-away. But not forever: Peter Dickinson knows precisely where to brake the more improbable reaches of the imagination.

As with his books for adults *Healer* works because Pinkie and Barry are real people, not cardboard figures, with the fears and needs of ordinary children. It is their solidity that cleverly anchors a cast of adults whose behaviour is never wholly explained - but then, in a child's eye, is adult behaviour ever wholly explicable? It is precisely this twist that makes *Healer* such a clever book.

Caroline Moorehead

## Between stools

**Dan Alone**  
By John Rowe Townsend  
(Kestrel, £5.95)

In *Dan Alone* John Rowe Townsend returns to the Northern streets, the pub and the derelict hide-away of his first book *Gumble's Yard*. The genesis of that first novel lay in the lives of the "socially deprived" as observed by Townsend in his capacity as reporter for the *Manchester Guardian*, when the treatment of such subject matter was seen as pioneering.

*Dan Alone* goes back in time to 1922 and an 11-year-old boy whose view of the world is heavily influenced by his reading of Victorian children's fiction with its benevolent benefactors, long-lost but patriotic parents and saintly children. Dan acts out these fantasies in real life as he attempts to discover who his father is and to convert the thieves amongst whom he has fallen to righteous ways.

In between the Victorian is a reworking of a major *Gumble's Yard* theme: children playing house for real as they hide away from the authorities. In both books there is a wealth of domestic detail and a great many floors are scrubbed.

*Dan Alone* falls uneasily between stools. Its over-riding sense of place is Victorian with its literary references and its Pagan-like gang of thieves. Only the references to motorcars and corned beef serve to recall the '20s.

If this were a pastiche of Victorian children's fiction, the young hero's priggish reference to "undesirable characters" and the often stilted dialogue would be acceptable - a Townsend thief talks of "pains in the neck". But the logic of such pastiche is not followed through and characters are simply implausible and dialogue old-fashioned.

But Townsend the social pioneer is still in evidence in his creation of Benji the Jew, a peripatetic glazier despised in the streets for his race. Benji serves most aptly in these National Front days to inform young readers of the anti-semitism of our recent past. That Benji should turn out to be Dan's father provokes real dramatic tension and an interesting graduation of feeling in the son from loathing and fear to pity and love.

Rosemary Stones

## Not so flip

**Run, Run as Fast as You Can**  
By Mary Pope Osborne  
(Patrick Hardy, £4.95)

**Things are Seldom What They Seem**  
By Sandy Asher  
(Gollancz, £5.95)

*Run, Run as Fast as You Can* seems for a while to be following the usual pattern of an American teenage novel. Eleven-year-old Hallie wants to be recognised as an adult within her family and wants to find a place for herself among the pretty and popular set of girls in her school class.

Half way through the book, however, the style makes a striking change when Hallie is confronted by the dreadful reality of her younger brother dying of cancer. She is poi-

nantly alone - physically, as her parents spend more and more time at the hospital, and emotionally as they try to shield her from the pain of events; and in a most moving climax she cycles through perilous streets in a vain effort to reach the hospital before her brother dies.

It is unfortunate that this powerful chapter is followed by one which reverts rather flatly to the tone of the first half of the book. What is of greater significance however, is the way that average, and possibly rather immature readers may be trapped halfway into a compulsively gripping story without having the emotional maturity to cope with it.

In a different way Sandy Asher's book poses a similar problem. Here we meet Debbie, living a normal enough life with a boy-friend (albeit one four and a half inches shorter than she is) and with rows and makings-up from her parents (Irish mother, Italian father). Imposed on this however, is an argument about trust, since she discovers that her elder sister is involved with a paedophilic drama teacher. For all Miss Asher's flip humour, which will be much to the taste of fans of Judy Blume, there is a serious question confronting Debbie about the keeping of promises and the balancing of her loyalty to parents, sister, friends and boy-friend.

This is something for which younger readers may not be entirely prepared. Do we leave them to get on with it, or is there an onus on parents, teachers and librarians to know more about this borderland of fiction that lies between, let us say, *Little Women* and *Lolita*?

Jennie Ingham

## Celtic hinterland

**The Dragonfly Years**  
By Mollie Hunter  
(Hamish Hamilton, £5.50)

Is the cult of the teenage novel just an excuse for literary ladies to write up-market Mills & Boon romances? Mollie Hunter's *The Dragonfly Years* has a veneer of culture about it. Politics and religion in the Edinburgh of the 1930s are glimpsed. The heroine, Bridie McShane, first met in Miss Hunter's previous *A Sound of Chariots*, assures us constantly that she will subordinate everything to becoming a writer. But her love-life, which is the *fil rouge* of the story, is described with about the same conviction as occurs in most of the heart-throb paperbacks. No tension - and a prose style that suggests it is one of Bridie's early efforts to impress her night-school tutors.

The same trite prose characterises Joan Lingard's Edinburgh story too, *The Winter Visitor* (Hamish Hamilton, £5.50). But at least Miss Lingard buries some of her drama in the narrative, instead of announcing it from stage-front. The story turns on the

reappearance of an old love in the life of Rona Murray, and I suppose that it's published as a children's book because the action is viewed through the eyes of her fifteen-year old son, who wants to be a painter. He's a pretty non-committal guy who takes in his stride both the "winter visitor" and the affair which his sister is having with an Italian restaurateur, and there's a lot of Lingard stuff about the everlasting disputes of the Belfast Irish. Yet again though, it's not hard in all this to see the weary stereotypes of romance, dressed up expensive in hard covers.

But if you look at another example of dire experiences in the Celtic hinterland, then you begin to see how stories should be written. Polly Devlin's *The Far Side of the Lough* (Gollancz, £5.50) is ostensibly a sequel to a tale told by Mary-Ellen to a young girl in her charge. All are drawn from Mary-Ellen's life as the daughter of a poor fisherman on the coast of Lough Neagh - but far from being mollifying experiences they are instant with fierce life. Stark, terrible, comic things happen on the far side of that Lough. Much loved dolls are decapitated, pigs are gored before your very eyes; the Black and Tans wreak pointless anguish on a gentle old man; Mary-Ellen lives for the reader as neither of those Scottish narrators do, and her plain authentic speech brings her stories pulsingly to life.

Heather Renshaw

## The chip test

I've just looked at half a dozen different explanations of how a silicon chip is made. Three left me none the wiser, three made some sense. The chip test is not the only way of sorting out the flood of children's fact books about computers that has appeared in recent months. But you have to start somewhere.

There is no doubt that every home should have one. You don't actually need to know anything about how a computer works to use one. But children are growing up with the things, the home and school micros they have access to are only a small part of the story, and most want to know more.

The books I have seen were pretty similar in treatment, content and even (with one exception) the rather dreary mix of pictures. They give a bit of history, a bit about how computers work, a bit about programming, a bit about their uses in the world, and a bit about likely developments.

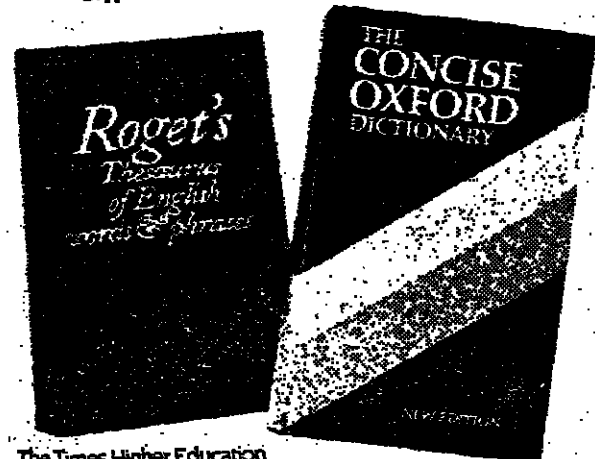
Some provide glimpses of a computerized home of the future. Few doubts are raised about consequences and social effects: computers are a Good Thing, enabling mums and children to work from home and the police to catch more criminals.

Most of the books were adequately clear and informative. The three best (all of which passed the chip test) were the *Usborne Guide to Computers* by Brian Riffin Smith (Usborne, £1.85), *Computer World*, by Jacquetta Megarry (Kingfisher, £2.95) and *Computers*, by Neil Ardrey (Kingfisher, £4.95).

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Virginia Makins

## Taken short

**Adrift**, by Allan Baillie (Blackie, £4.95). Winner of the first Kathleen Fidler Award with a well-trie theme of two children washed out to sea on a packing-case. The action is interspersed with an undeveloped plot about Dad's failure as a farmer.

**The Devil's Door-bell**, by Anthony Morowitz (Patrick Hardy, £4.95). Looks like being an exhilarating comic thriller, but ends up tangled in a too-ambitious effort to unite the powers of nuclear fission and ancient witchcraft.

**The Worm and the Toadstool**, by Ewa Ibbotson (Macmillan, £3.95). One of four books in a new series of re-invented or re-told folk tales. Although it makes fun of things like Krakens and Brollachans, which it should not, it has a liveliness of language that is less prominent in its three companions: *Beyond the Firelight* by Ann Lawrence, *The Boy who Turned into a Goat* by James Riordan, and *A Small Pudding for Wee Gowrie* by William Mayne.

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## Palace of varieties

Alexandra Palace is to rise again. Louis Bizat, who administers the £30m trust set up to look after the building after it was gutted by fire in 1980, is jubilant that permission has been granted for redevelopment as an exhibition and leisure centre. The decision comes almost two years after a public inquiry which Bizat calls "the most uninteresting ever held". It attracted no more than four observers throughout, lasted six months, and had as its highpoint Bizat's joking suggestion that a complex of sex shops might make the operation commercially viable. This was taken seriously, but the resulting pandemonium went unreported because the press had long since ceased attending.

## Spoilt rare bit

There is more troublesome news of a burnt building in Wales, the hotel at Portmeirion by Clough Williams-Ellis. After a succession of retrospective applications for planning permission for repairs already carried out in what conservationists consider an "unsatisfactory, crude and piecemeal" way, the Victorian Society has begged the Welsh Office to halt all work until a comprehensive restoration scheme has been approved. Teresa Sladen, of the Victorian Society, says: "The local authority and National Park officials simply do not understand the aesthetic complaints we are raising with them. We have given up writing to Gwynedd County Council, and now we find the Welsh Office never replies." Clough Williams-Ellis did not bother much with planning authorities when creating the eccentric Italianate village of which the hotel is part, but then, a glance at the shoddy cafeteria erected amid his now listed buildings shows that his successors have inherited none of his sensitivity.

● An American has invented the vending machine in reverse. You put empty beer cans in, and get 24 cents out. This uncanny ecological improvement has gone into operation in South Carolina.

## Own gaol

Arthur Logan Petch retires as chairman of industrial tribunals in England and Wales next month. He holds a unique legal distinction. He once defended the man who burgled his house. Despite a strong plea in mitigation, praised by the judge, the man went to prison.

BARRY FANTONI



"Gerald's so brave. He picked up our old ironing board and just threw it on the tip."

## Pawn and mate

The suspicions against President Marcos excited by the murder of Benigno Aquino and the immediate despatch of his assassin puts the President in the same class as Alexander the Great. Alexander's father, Philip II of Macedonia, was stabbed by a pawn called Pausanias while marching in the wedding procession of his daughter Cleopatra at Aegae in 336 BC. Pausanias was immediately captured and killed, and suspicion of having inspired his crime fell upon Alexander. The guilty party was more probably his mother, Olympias. Please do not read that to mean that I think Mrs Marcos fixed this one.

## Fore and after

Seven well-known thriller writers have formed their own TV production company, and worked a surprise into the announcement of the fact. Philip Mackie, who scripted *Malice Aforethought*, is described by Hoagland Thrillers as "one of the boys with toxic talents that went into his like *Malice Aforethought*". Is this a sequel or just a mini-series?

Devising a symbol for the European Currency Unit (ECU), which shares its name with an obsolete French coin and is a notional composite of all EEC currencies except the Greek drachma, is too easy for my readers. The two popular solutions were monograms of ECU, and the Greek E with a cancelling stroke to symbolize Greece's exclusion. Peter Grant suggested the Old English letter, thorn, "to immortalize the ineffably absurd Gaston Thorn and remind other members that Britain will continue to be a thorn in their flesh"; D. A. Johnson suggested a reversed ampersand because the money would go in "back-and-forth", and Colin Brown thought a V sign appropriate. The winner, though, is Anne Ochaner whose symbol has Greek E facing both ways (as any EEC symbol should), can be typed using brackets and a dash, and since the ECU does not exist as note or coin, shows, she suggests, that "the ECU is a pun currency at which we should draw the line". PHS

# Cathy comes back for a handout

by David Walker

Faintly at first but unmistakably comes the noise of a lobby jirring itself to battle for extra public expenditure.

Books, heart-rending stories in Sunday newspapers, a television series *Breadline Britain*, all proclaim that the poverty lobby is reorganizing. Parallel moves on the public housing front suggest that Cathy is likely to come home again in the mid-1980s, too.

A former *New Society* journalist, Paul Harrison, packages himself as a latterday Mayhew to penetrate darkest Stoke Newington and in a new Penguin\* treats us to an emotional account of this hidden Third World on our affluent doorsteps. There is "decay... dereliction... violent theft... massive levels of social need" and nary a Clissold Park gentrifier in sight.

A survey is published telling us of unknown reservoirs of poverty: 7,000,000 Britons do not know where the next instalment on their colour television rental is coming from. Nearly 12,000,000 people (albeit on a sample of 1,174) are classified as sometimes poor.

But does this negate the untiring efforts of the poverty campaigners since the 1960s when the existence of primary poverty, despite the welfare state, was first given widespread publicity? Of course not: the MORI poll reported subjective assessments of the elements of a reasonable standard of living. People living on yesterday's moderate standards are today's "new poor". In fact, poverty campaigners of the Frank Field stamp have - with political allies from across the spectrum - made significant progress in alleviating primary deprivation.

\*Inside the Inner City, £3.95

What is happening now is only marginally connected with the institutionalized poverty groups. Such bodies as the Child Poverty Action Group have taken on an establishment colouring; indeed CPAG's Ruth Lister seems positively scholarly in her encyclopaedic knowledge of the multi-volumed intricacies of social security.

Instead there are signs of a spill-over from the disarray of the Labour Party. The educated, altruistic middle class's moral indignation is increasingly denied the opportunities once provided by the Labour Party for political activism. Single-issue campaigning thus beckons attractive and, to be sure, the poor are always with us.

Objectively, Britain remains a society where income and life chances are unequal, where the gross facts of social disorganization (the single-parent families, the unattached elderly) and deprivation (the physical state of the core of private rented housing, the conditions of existence where the breadwinner is long-term unemployed) are stubbornly unyielding.

These gross facts might, with time, respond to detailed social policies of a type that Margaret Thatcher's government has been singularly unwilling to develop; its priorities seem to have been merely expenditure control by chopping back demand-led outlays. Absent has been hard thinking about "problem" families, the care of children in low income environments and, most important, how to deliver services to such families. All that has been visible have, on the one hand, been the facile

mottos evidenced in the Family Policy Group's discussions and, on the other, a policy towards local authorities that implausibly seeks to kill off high-spending without hurting the social services that the high spending councils deliver.

But constructive social policy is one thing; emotional campaigns another. According to the MORI poll published last weekend the British public would support a 1p rise in income tax, presumably to "cure" poverty. This is simple-heartedness carried too far: enhanced cash handouts may be part of the solution for some poor people but part only. The "problem" of poverty in Britain is a tissue of inadequacy and even fecklessness as well as material want. It is a political problem, too, and not the kind to be solved by increasing the rate support grant to Hackney Borough Council. Council housing and council inefficiency are themselves part of the problem.

Would-be poverty campaigners would do well to turn up the study published last year by the Social Science Research Council on cycles of deprivation. One finding was the need for an intensive policy for families which recognized that many poor people are inadequate and need - though the whole ethos of 1960s-style social work is against this - to be taught the virtues of thrift.

Affecting vignettes of life among the Hackney poor do not of themselves make a case for increased social security payments. They might, instead, suggest that the women of poor families need help and guidance on household management - a conclusion that no doubt smacks too much of the Grantham corner shop to make it acceptable to the morally indignant poverty lobby.

## Richard Owen on the symbolic obstacle to Soviet economic progress

# Andropov tries to jump the great Russian queue

Moscow Rounding the corner from *The Times* office the other day I came across a queue three feet deep stretching for several blocks. Lucky (and patient) customers at the head of the queue were making off with their rare booty: toilet paper. Some carried unmanageable bundles, others were festooned with it. The following day the queue was still there, shuffling forward.

"The queue - any queue - is a perfect illustration of what Andropov is up against," an economist friend remarked. "Despite all our achievements, 65 years after the revolution we still cannot produce basic commodities. We are always laying the basis for future abundance while spending our daily lives in an endless search for everyday goods."

Queuing, together with absenteeism, is the most obvious sign of Russia's economic difficulties. The two are connected. Under a new law on labour discipline - Mr Andropov's hallmark - anyone found absent from his place of work for more than three hours a day is deemed absent for a day, and anyone absent for a day without good cause forfeits a day of holiday entitlement. Since three hours in a queue is not all that unusual, many Soviet factory and office workers are trapped. If they take time off to buy shoes or sausage, they risk a stiff penalty, including having to pay compensation for loss of production at work; but if they do not take their place in the queue the family goes unfed or unshod.

Mr Andropov's answer is that if all workers stayed at their benches or desks and made more effort, the economy would grow to the point where supply would finally catch up with demand, and the queues would melt away.

Many Russians are sceptical, including the Kremlin advisers who recently leaked a damaging report on the Soviet economy to the western press (previously unheard-of). All senior economists from the elite research centre at Akademgorodok in Novosibirsk, the authors came to the conclusion that the Soviet economy needed thorough

overhaul if it was to be transformed from a fundamentally Stalinist system of central control into a sensitive economic mechanism attuned to workers' and consumers' needs and wishes. "Tackle the cause, not the symptoms," was the message from Novosibirsk.

This apparently common sense recommendation was put on one side as too radical after a top-level conference in April. Instead, the Kremlin announced a "limited economic experiment" in five selected industries from next January, giving plant managers vaguely defined powers over budget and manning, and with a nod in the direction of profit and loss accounting.

The reformers and their Kremlin allies have come up against the immovable object on which all Soviet reformers sooner or later stub their toes: the entrenched bureaucracy. Mr Andropov has a sharp brain, and is slowly unfolding a long-term strategy which has been forming in his mind since he had access to the real facts of economic life as head of the KGB. But the average economic administrator is neither as sharp nor as perceptive, and is more concerned to keep his largely unnecessary job than to stimulate change and growth.

It is of course not out of the question - and there are whispers to this effect in Moscow - that the Novosibirsk radicals' allies include Mr Andropov himself. Leaks do not

happen by chance, least of all in the Soviet Union. Mr Nikolai Baibakov, Russia's chief state planner as head of Gosplan for nearly 20 years, gave a press conference in which he soft-pedalled the new measures, on the grounds that the economy was too large to restructure swiftly, and sought to minimize the significance of the leaked report. Yet only two days before, in a speech to party veterans, Mr Andropov had spoken of reforms stretching well into the next five year plan. Using language very close to that of the document, he criticized "half-measures" which had failed to overcome "accumulated inertia".

One observer of the Soviet scene remarked: "Nobody looking at Mr Baibakov could fail to think of accumulated inertia." Baibakov's officials point out that Mr Brezhnev also called for efficiency and labour discipline, but omit to add that Mr Andropov is doing something about it, in the face of opposition from Brezhnevites.

If Mr Andropov does succeed where others have failed, it will be because he is skillfully combining gradual reforms with a tough crackdown on indiscipline.

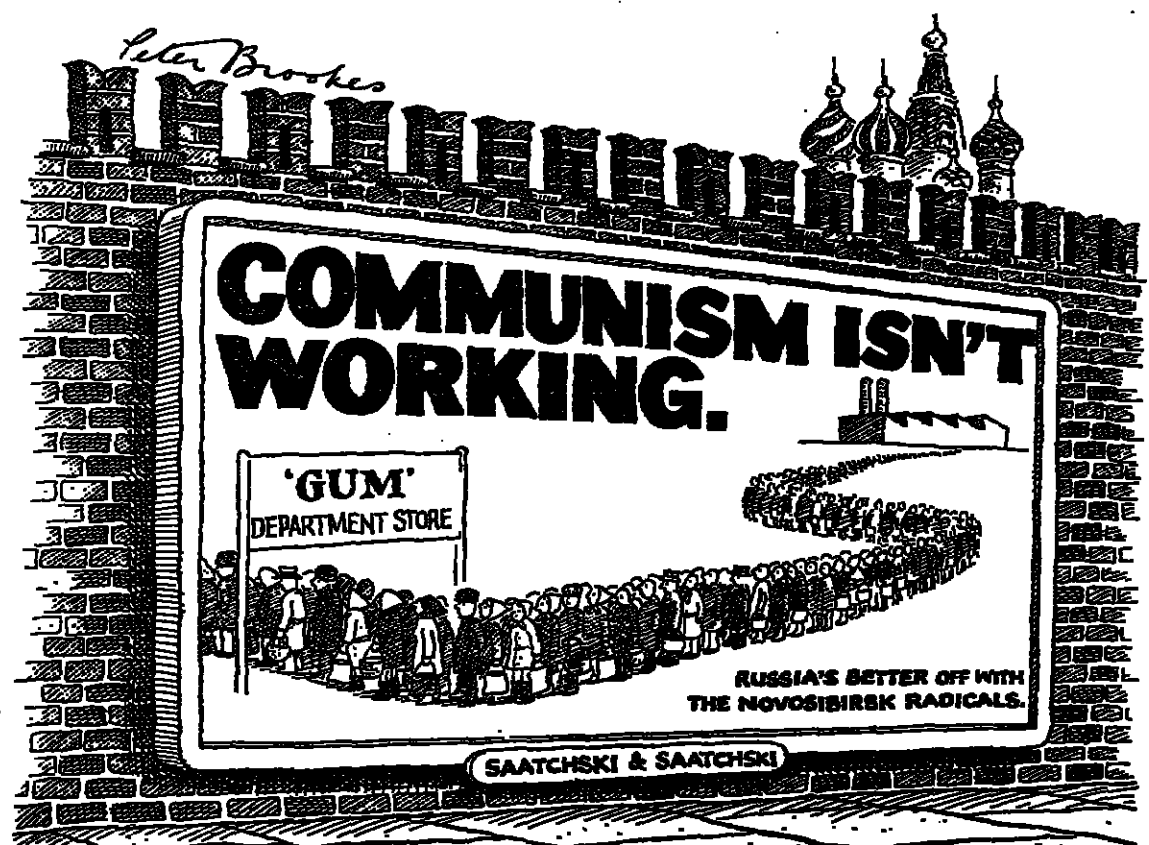
Mr Andropov has set an example by staying at his desk through much of the summer. But how far is he able or willing to go?

There have been some hints in the Soviet press that a little private enterprise here and there might not be a bad thing. One senior

economic official even suggested to me that a little unemployment in the grossly overmanned socialist economy would do no harm. Such unorthodox thoughts are clearly inspired by the dismal performance of an economy with declining growth rates (the growth rate target this year is only 3.2 per cent).

The reality remains that - as an Armenian economist disclosed in the theoretical journal *Kommunist* in June - the economic bureaucracy is colossal, with 64 ministries and 23 state committees dealing with all details of planning and production. It is high time to reexamine the organization and management of the entire industrial complex. *Kommunist* declared: "It is not possible to continue multiplying ministries."

Perhaps not. Many Muscovites in the queue must have wondered why 64 ministries could not between them arrange for the production of toilet paper in the right quantities at the right time. On the other hand, neither *Kommunist* nor Mr Andropov, nor the Novosibirsk reformers have yet told us how Thatcherite principles of cost-effectiveness and streamlining can be applied to Russia without either undermining the ideological purity of Marxism or Leninism (sternly guarded by Mr Andropov himself) or provoking a counter-revolution from the kind of managers who know how to talk about efficiency but not how to achieve it.



Matthew Parris

# Taking the polite out of politician

Every age has its conventional wisdoms, most of them wrong. The really major idiocies are usually a matter of consensus between worthy men of all parties. The Armada, the Maginot Line and the tower block, the slave trade, the Test Act, our former immigration policy and the British Motor Corporation: the window tax, the Location of Offices Bureau and the reorganization of local government... all have commanded the respect among politicians that leeches used to command among the medical profession. I expect there was a time when one had only to call "Leeches!" from the backbenches in Parliament to elicit a resounding "Hear, Hear!" from both sides of the House. Now, one would be ordered to withdraw.

I dare say our age is the first to be completely free from delusion. However, just on the off chance that it is not, I wonder whether we are better-equipped than our forebears to seek and destroy can't?

Take the House of Commons. We enjoy a system of constituency representation which appoints 650 counsel for the defence, but no prosecutors. Human nature inclines the experts in any field to be its protagonists, and, though it is true that any MP could spend his time tearing into his constituents, the sacred cows of their material interests, he likely to do what he will be rewarded or thanked for doing. One is thanked, generally, for helping people.

In theory, of course, wherever resources are finite it should follow that to defend one interest is to oppose another. According to his theory, one's enthusiasm for a theatre museum would diminish as one's desire to augment the war widows' pension increased. But it does not seem to work that way. As the pressure is towards an MP promoting "his" constituents and "his" area of special interest. Who, then, will oppose them?

Anne Sofer suggested in these columns that we ask voters whom they would particularly not want to represent them. I expect she thinks this should count against a candidate but I wonder whether it could not count in his favour? Should we not balance our regular MPs with an elite cadre of members - anti-MPs if you like - chosen for the numbers of voters they had estranged and the depth of offence they had caused: members driven remorselessly on by a need to be swept back into power, at the election, on a tide of anger and public loathing?

As things stand, important arguments are left prudently unheeded. There is a case, for instance, against all regional policy - but we shall not hear it from the regional members. "None of your business" I remember an inner-city colleague retorting when, from my green and landlocked constituency I sneered at deindustrialization schemes. There is an argument about agricultural subsidy - but why master the mysteries of the green farmers? And, if you do, why knock subsidy?

Now it may be objected that the official Opposition was a device designed to debunk the Government. Certainly the parties debunk each other but this is a diversion, a

substitute, for questioning the idiotic complacencies on which there is consensus between the parties.

Perhaps when the party system was based more clearly on class hatred and class loyalty, politicians could be more uninhibitedly offensive to the people, rather than each other. Then, perhaps, you tried to please only your own side. Now, we have to please everybody. The Labour Party is fading. The Liberal Party is in favour of everything except dog litter: the SDP wants to help everyone; while the Tories, who still occasionally turn things down, do so reluctantly.

We are in principle hostile to nothing except crime, Russia and organized labour. When we are not calling other politicians liars and cheats we are writing to our constituents thanking them for their views about the plight of social-workers/ librarians/baby seals, expressing ourselves conscious of their deep and understandable concern, while only reminding them of the practical limits to our powers.

Opposition MPs do the same. It is now really the Treasury which effectively shoulders the burden of official Opposition. But it is wrong that a handful of ministers, necessarily inept in all the worthwhile proposals that have to be resisted, should be left to provide the counter-argument. They are reduced to blocking their ears and shouting "Sorry - no cash!" It leads to the spreading and shallow assumption that the only reason for the Government's not doing more is shortage of money. It is inadequate argument but it is all that a Treasury Minister is equipped to deploy.

From among my anti-MPs, therefore, will be chosen anti-ministers. These will be appointed with special areas of responsibility and promoted for their vigour in beating back the waves of sententious worthiness that beset a minister's job to reflect and amplify.

Debates will be marked by speech after speech from anti-ministers opposed, successively, to shipbuilding, mining, transport and the arts, while my anti-minister for trade will call for ever-more massive foreign dumping in Britain, so that we can get goods cheaply. Special anti-ministers will be appointed, on an *ad hoc* basis, to oppose the West Midlands, moorland preservation and children's play. My anti-foreign minister, who regrettably cannot occupy Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

Readers will, no doubt correctly, judge me fanciful. Perhaps I overstate the case. But I envisage a Parliament in which things are said which are not now said which ought to be said, but which it is to nobody's present advantage to say.

The real enemy in Britain never was Marxism and is clearly not Marxism today. The real enemy is indolence, complacency and cant. Cant is what is used to justify indulgence and complacency. Ministers must be found to oppose it. The more effectively they do so, the more unpopular they will be. Therefore, they must be chosen, retained and promoted for their unpopularity. I am off to the Sahara to brood on this.

The author is Conservative MP for West Derbyshire.

Jonathan Sale

# Down to grass tracks with Urban Man

So much for the second home. That's it for 1983, which sees the end of a decade of happy second-home ownership. We look forward to the next 10 years of holidays in a structure that is free from rates, mortgages, dry rot and political disapproval. Meanwhile, into the loft goes the second home.

Our tent is a godlike folly in canvas (unlike the house, which is merely a folly). Each year it grows a little: an extra sleeping compartment, an awning. Yet all it needs is six square yards or so of grass, hired for a fortnight a year. I think of it as a form of time-sharing. We own the fabric, rent the earth.

Each year on the first day of the school holidays, a cheer echoes around the car as the trailer slips over the River Tamar and into Cornwall. This is generally agreed to be the moment at which we cease to be residents of bricks and mortar, and start to be dwellers under canvas. Dr Jekyll has become Mr Hyde, or perhaps it is the other way round. House Man has become Tent Man.

House Man puts off investigating the pattering of rainwater under the tiles until the decibel count goes over the pain threshold. Tent Man has the poles in position before the keys are out of the ignition. House Man tells House Wife to get up the ladder herself if the roof worries her that much. Tent Man cheerfully unpegs the guy-ropes and, to please Tent Wife, shifts the whole tent a foot and a half to the left. House Man summons of a morning like Rip Van Winkle on Moggi, Tent Man is up first thing to make tea for Tent Wife and breakfast for Tent Kids, whereupon he starts on sandwiches for lunch on the beach.

House Man has two showers a day and covers himself in something high-powered by Brut bought in an Amnesty jumble sale. Tent Man takes two showers a day and tells Tent Wife that's good enough. (Five years ago, a whole new shower wing was added to the camp-site's toilet block; some of us have never been in it.)

House Man takes his bicycle everywhere, even into friends' flats, so that his feet have forgotten how to move except with a circular motion. Tent Man stuffs a mountain-bike rack with towels, food and jumpers, heaves Tent Toddler upon his shoulders and

strides off along the lengthy track to the beach. House Man is never without the sound of one of his radios, which range from the tuner of the stereo system to a tiny model disguised as a packet of digestive biscuits. Tent Man appreciates silence so much that he catches himself trying to shush the seagulls.

House Man counts calories and sugar content; he occasionally writes caustic restaurant reviews. Tent Man finds grass in the tea, tea in the mussels and dead wasps in everything; he consumes it all. (So does Tent Sister-in-Law, dropping in from the next tent but one at supper time and remarking, "Ah, pigswill," before accepting a trough, or plate, of the thrown-together repast.)

House Man spends his evenings vaguely looking for the drill and not putting up shelves, which he finds very weird. Tent Man often spends afternoons watching grass grow on dunes, but sometimes is not quite so energetic. House Man washes what is left of his hair twice a week. Tent Man never touches shampoo (or even a comb) for a whole fortnight - see "swims" above.

Tent Man meets fellow Tent Folk while filling his water-carrier at the tap, like an African villager at the water-hole. House Man goes for walks without exchanging a word with the neighbours, and then it is mainly political abuse with the man at Number 35. Tent Man relishes the feel of bare earth and sand on his toes. House Man once walked on bare feet from the car to the gate, only to be reminded that urban dogs have made this a risky procedure.

Tent Man, Wife, Sister-in-Law and Husband have discovered a nudist beach, where they sunbathe without embarrassment and surf cautiously. House Man is throttled by his tie but clings to it in case important people walk into his office; they never do, at least not without knocking. Tent Man has no mirror. House Man looks in one and discovers that at the end of his holiday, his nose had begun to peel like anything.

House Man's favourite sight is the bridge at the River Tamar, showing travellers an east to west that Cornwall is at hand, or at wheel. Tent Man, reluctantly proceeding from west to east, hates it.

Jonathan Davis  
Financial Correspondent

مكتبة الأمل





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## DETENTION BY ERROR

Earlier this month a mentally handicapped patient who had been sent to Rampton Hospital 11 years ago as a boy of sixteen was released on the instructions of a Mental Health Review Tribunal, and became a voluntary in-patient at a mental hospital in his home town. The chairman of the tribunal took the unusual step of making public a statement in which he made clear that the patient, Mr Lyle Clarke, would have been unlikely on present guidelines to be accepted as a suitable patient for Rampton. He added that after the tribunal's original decision last May that he should be released, it was discovered that a number of bizarre allegations in his confidential medical record were exaggerated or wholly untrue. Whether by malice, negligence or innocent oversight, he had been the victim of a gross injustice.

The discovery was made by an ironic chance. After the tribunal's first decision, details apparently calculated to arouse public alarm about Mr Clarke's impending release were leaked to the press. It was partly because of this publication of allegations which had apparently been unknown to Mr Clarke or his family that it became possible to refute them and show that an even greater injustice had been done to him than had appeared at first.

The case is a prompt vindication of this year's reforms of the law on the review of the cases of compulsorily detained mental patients. The new system ensures that their cases should be considered by independent tri-

bunals at least every three years, and not to sink unexamined into an institutional dead-end if the patient himself lacks the initiative to seek a hearing. The extension of legal aid to these tribunals now allows a patient to be legally represented.

Mr Clarke's case is one of the first of many to be heard in the next few months. He had sought tribunal hearings before in 1973 and 1975, but since then he had apparently given up hope to such an extent that he was initially reluctant to appear this year. His entire adult life has, after all, been spent at Rampton. In the earlier hearings he presumably represented himself, and since he was apparently unaware of the false charges in his records (which may be withheld from a patient if it is considered medically desirable) it is no wonder that he failed. Similarly, the solicitor presenting his case in May would have been unable to refer them to the patient himself and discover that they were denied.

Unlike many Rampton patients, Mr Clarke was not sent there for offences proved in court, though there was an initial court hearing connected with his legal guardianship. Northamptonshire County Council, now his legal guardian, initially opposed his release, partly because it claimed it had no suitable accommodation for him. As the public authority which would have to bear the cost and possible political odium if he were released, the county was exposed to an awkward potential conflict of interest. The inadequacy of accommodation

outside hospital for the rehabilitation of mental patients is an important side-issue in the case: it is not enough to improve the machinery if the means are absent.

If the law had not been changed, Mr Clarke might have been robbed of his liberty for far longer, and might have sunk into an institutionalized state where he could no longer have benefited even if the wrong done to him had been discovered. But the new system does not guarantee that similar injustices will necessarily be uncovered, or that new ones will not occur. It is easy to envisage circumstances in which false information might even now block a patient's release and never become known to those in a position to contest it. Errors can creep into the record without any question of malice, through unclear noting of hearsay or patient's fantasy.

The facts of the present case remain worryingly obscure. Mr Clarke's family and Mind, the national association for mental health, have asked the Government for an inquiry. There should be an inquiry, whether or not there is evidence of malice— even more perhaps, if there is none — to establish what went wrong and whether measures are needed to prevent it happening again. In the meantime, tribunals should work in full awareness of the lessons of the case, and in particular consider the status of the evidence before them. Where it is held to be medically unavoidable to withhold important evidence from a patient, that evidence should be treated with special care.

## SANCTIONS NEED CONCERTING

The signing in Moscow today of a new five-year grain agreement between the United States and the USSR may mark a fresh approach by Washington to the thorny question of economic sanctions, but it certainly does not end the heated debate on how best to coordinate policy on East-West trade. There is resentment in Europe that whereas European industry suffered from US sanctions on the Siberian gas pipeline, in the grain deal US domestic politics weighed more heavily than the interests of the Alliance. West European governments, however, are themselves criticized for failing to cooperate on the pipeline issue, laying their countries open to the danger of depending on the USSR for a significant part of their energy supplies. Moreover, they are prepared to subsidize the sale of EEC butter to the USSR.

Of course governments must promote the prosperity of their countries through trade, and a secure military defence is possible only on the basis of a sound economy. President Reagan cannot disregard the farmers of the Mid-West who suffered from the export embargo imposed in 1980 after the invasion of Afghanistan. Mrs Thatcher was under similar pressures when Washington blocked shipments of US technology to the Siberian pipeline, hitting British suppliers of compressor station equipment. Even the EEC butter sales which certainly benefited the

USSR and the millionaire middleman, also had some advantages for the taxpayers in saved storage costs.

Sanctions have a role in Nato policy, however, whether the aim is to encourage the Soviet leaders to behave better towards dissidents, Poles and Afghans, or whether it is no more than the understandable desire to prevent a hostile state becoming militarily or economically stronger than we are. But to serve any purpose they must be effective, and to be effective they should be applied in a less piecemeal fashion than hitherto.

The Soviet authorities, reaping some advantage from their centralized political and economic control, derive great satisfaction from playing one Nato ally against another, and encouraging firms — often from the same country — to undercut each other. Grain sanctions lose impact when Canada, or a non-Nato source such as Argentina, offers alternative supplies. Just before the arrival in Moscow of Mr John Block, the US Secretary of Agriculture, Soviet officials told visiting Congressmen that any grain imports beyond the new annual minimum of nine million tons would not be bought from the USA unless balanced by the purchase of Soviet goods.

The ban on exporting Caterpillar pipelaying tractors to the USSR was rendered ineffective by Japan's Komatsu Company

smashing the lost orders, and now President Reagan has decided to remove the embargo which was imposed in response to the 1978 dissident trials. Again, the advisers defending domestic economic interests prevailed over those concerned with strategic defence. Had Japan agreed to cooperate, the argument for the sanctions would have been stronger.

Strengthening and extending the competence of the Coordinating Committee charged with restricting exports of strategic materials and equipment to communist countries (COCOM) would be a constructive step in avoiding such conflicts of interest in future. Tokyo, concerned at the Soviet military buildup in the Pacific area, is more interested than before in such cooperation. The debate on sanctions is growing particularly sharp in Washington; the Export Administration Act expires on 30 September, and amendments promoted by commercial interests could weaken the President's power to impose export bans.

The outcome of this debate will clearly be of concern to West European countries also. But to claim that our sovereignty is at stake in disputes such as that over the pipeline is to exaggerate; achieving a reasonable basis for cooperation on matters of such importance is worth some compromise in economic independence.

## BOWLING ALONG THE ROAD

A form of locomotion favoured by Toad and B Wooster must be good. So Ford thinks, for it has re-invented the convertible in a version of the Escort.

Convertibles are for motoring, which is distinct from driving much as boating is from rowing, or ping-pong from table-tennis. Motoring is an end in itself. The destination, the time taken, the quality of the radio reception, the registration number, the operational condition of the cigar lighter, all are secondary to the pure sensation of bowling along the road. As the sensation is keener if nothing stands between motorist and hedgerow except a current of warm air, your convertible is the thing.

Toad, it is true, was an exponent of the more aggressive, the "roadster" school of motoring. Even Bertie Wooster, under the stress of emotion, would

make the two-seater sing. But Toad was vainglorious, and the two-seater cooled down when Jeeves took the controls. Properly applied, convertibles are for use in pottering, not pace.

Since the collapsible Morris Minor went out of production years ago the only "popular" model available has been a rather pricey Beetle job from Germany. So for the benefit of a new generation of motorists we recall the salient points of the convertible.

Contrary to the indications of common sense the wind hits you in the back of the neck, not on the brow. This obtains whether you are going backwards or forwards. It blows the hair over the eyes. If the hair is worn at fashionable length it is necessary to carry a McEneaney fillet or snood in the glove compartment. In winter a top coat should be

worn. There is no known method of sealing a convertible against draughts; nor, eventually, against water. Sooner or later an umbrella becomes part of the standard equipment.

The back seat is the best place on a hot day. It cannot be recommended in other conditions.

Smell is the great bonus of open-skies motoring — the smell of pine woods, blossom, showers on the dust, the early hours of a summer's night. Since no other motor vehicle smells nice, choose deserted roads.

On motorways the only lane fit for use by a convertible is the hard shoulder. Since that is out of bounds, an alternative route should be found.

Motoring proper is at its best on a warm day in June where the bean fields are in flower and scenting the lanes. Avoid oil seed rape.

## The Turkish question

From Sir Bernard Burrows  
Sir, Your criticism of the current Turkish constitutional process (leader, August 15) omits important historical considerations. Among the reasons for the state of anarchy in Turkey prior to the assumption of power by the armed forces in 1980 were two which are relevant to the situation today.

The constitution introduced after the military government of 1960-61 contained so many caveats to make balances on the executive almost impossible. In particular, parliament could only be dissolved before the expiry of its full term if a majority of deputies voted for this. Not surprisingly this never happened and the result was a

continuing stalemate between the two main parties.

The politicians then in power were unable to agree on the means of suppressing terrorism of the right and left which was making life intolerable for the ordinary citizen. Instead they took it in turns to make deals with disreputable fringe parties in order to obtain or retain in power. This led, amongst other things, to the politicization of the police force and recurrent gang warfare in the universities. It is hardly surprising that the present regime should seek to delay the re-entry of such politicians into political life.

The previous restorations of parliamentary democracy in Turkey may be regarded with hindsight as having been too rapid and doctri-

nair. The present process is deliberately slower and more gradual, in the hope that it may be longer lasting and not require another military intervention in 10 years' time.

The resulting political system will not be perfect — but what system is? Nor will the means of achieving it be free from blemish, but comment from outside is more likely to be of value if it gives due weight to the traumatic experience which Turkey underwent in the late Seventies, and the widespread desire in the country that this experience should not be repeated.

Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD BURROWS,  
Steep Farm,  
Petersfield,  
Hampshire.

## Growing doubt on youth training

From the Director of Youthaid

Sir, Michael Howard's letter (August 18) about the rejected plan for Kent County Council to provide 500 Youth Training Scheme places is so misleading that those less tolerant than I would call it vexatious.

The rejected scheme proposed to take on 500 school leavers at £25 a week to learn, among other things, catering skills and gardening. In the past Kent have taken on some school leavers each year into trainee grades such as cadet cook or parts department trainee. Last year they took on 28, in 1981 it was 50.

These programmes for fully paid youngsters are now abandoned in favour of taking on more young people, but at Government, not county, expense. And they will be paid only the training allowance of £25 instead of the full pay of £43.37. A year from now, a lucky 40 of these 500 will be taken on as 17-year-old employees. But as a result few or no 17-year-olds will be taken on direct.

No wonder the trade unions involved saw this proposal as a way of reducing, not increasing, youth employment and a lengthy way of selecting 17-year-olds at public expense. And no wonder the Manpower Services Commission are board, with employers and officials on it too, backed them and rejected the scheme.

A predecessor of the Youth Training Scheme was called Work Experience on Employers' Premises. A survey of employers involved found that about 30 per cent were taking on Government-subsidized trainees instead of full-priced labour. The Kent experience confirms growing fears that the Youth Training Scheme will be no better. With 300,000 places at employers' premises, that would represent 90,000 lost jobs. Hardly an "avenue of opportunity" for the unemployed.

Of course, the cancellation in Kent has caused disappointment. My niece was one let down. But Kent County Council has no right to tell the young people that the scheme before it had been approved by the MSC area board. It is Kent, not the unions, that bears the responsibility for the disappointment. And all of the disappointed youngsters will be found a place elsewhere.

I take up my post at Youthaid officially on September 5. But already my desk is piled high with reports of serious problems with the Youth Training Scheme. None of them concerns the attitudes of the trade unions. Michael Howard should consider all the evidence before making his case. Politics really should be kept out of jobs for school leavers.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL LEWIS, Director,  
Youthaid,  
9 Poland Street, W1,  
August 22.

## Paid jobs for all

From Professor P. R. G. Layard

Sir, Alan Eden-Green (August 3) has advocated work-sharing as a solution to the unemployment problem. The basic fallacy in this approach is that it is inflationary. Anything which reduces unemployment adds to inflationary pressure. This is true whether the extra jobs are created by expanding the demand for output, or by holding output constant and spreading the work over more people.

It may well be that we should accept a higher level of inflationary pressure — I believe that we should, while containing the pressure by an incomes policy. But the key question here is: should we expand the demand for output, or should we hold output constant and spread the work over more people. Put this way the answer seems obvious: we should expand output.

The advocates of work-sharing are under the illusion that output should be taken as given, but there are millions of unused needs in our society. The only limit to expanding output is the inflationary pressure which that induces. But if work-sharing induces the same inflationary pressure it would be much better to expand output. Moreover, in practice work-sharing would be likely to reduce output by raising the real hourly cost of labour. So it is a counsel of despair based on fallacious reasoning.

Yours faithfully,  
P. R. G. LAYARD,  
Centre for Labour Economics,  
The London School of Economics  
and Political Science,  
Houghton Street, WC2,  
August 9.

## Body and mind

From Dr Patrick Pietroni

Sir, I have only recently returned from holiday and read the three articles published (Spectrum, August 8, 9 and 10) together with your leading article (August 10) and the subsequent correspondence.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brian Inglis and Ruth West and add some personal observations. Holistic medicine is not just about alternative medicine — I have met many alternative practitioners who are not in the least holistic, treating their clients as objects to whom "things are done". Similarly, I have met many surgeons who, I believe, practise "whole person" medicine.

Holistic medicine is indeed about "whole-person" medicine, but its strength and vitality lie in the fact that it incorporates into its map of the "whole person" the more recent and up-to-date scientific discoveries that have up to till now been disregarded by the majority of traditionally trained doctors. These discoveries that enhance our understanding of how we function as human beings include:

1. Psycho-physiological mechanisms of stress.

## Balanced view of Soviet challenge

From the Chancellor of the University of Toronto

Sir, I read your leading article, "Soviet challenge", of August 20 on my way back from the Soviet Union, where I was discussing the resumption of academic exchanges, broken off by Canada after Afghanistan and Poland.

Your article, it seems to me, is quite right when it says that "it makes little sense to spend the country's wealth on weapons of mass destruction which, as deterrents, it is hoped never to use, while simultaneously trying to economize by reducing the educational budget for Russian studies." We in Canada are guilty of the same kind of false economy, only we are the hands further by cutting our students of Russia off from the benefit of exchanges, which the USA, tougher in other ways, has perceived as self-defeating.

But, if we are to arrive at a "realistic assessment of Moscow's policies" as a "first step towards organizing a coherent defence" then, it seems to me, we would be ill-advised to focus on those well-known attributes of an autocratic society like spying, repression and propaganda emphasizing antagonism rather than any possibilities of mutual cooperation in the common interest. Nothing so legitimizes militarism in the Soviet Union as the constantly reproduced threats from the outside world and sustained antagonism, which is seldom followed by coherent policies or action.

The Soviet system has many problems on the agenda requiring cooperation rather than confrontation, such as persistent nationalist feelings among its scores of ethnic minorities, the need for foreign trade and investment and falling productivity. If our students are not susceptible to resolution by weapons of mass destruction, the Alliance should seriously consider organizing "a coherent defence" by means alternative to the present escalation of nuclear blackmail and antagonism.

Is not another "Wise Man" exercise on non-military cooperation long overdue in Nato? (Pearson-Lange and Martino, 1958). Yours truly,  
GEORGE IGNATIEFF, Chancellor,  
University of Toronto,  
Toronto,  
Ontario,  
Canada,  
August 21.

## From Mr Brian Thomas

Sir, As one who has, on some 14 occasions since 1968, put forward in your columns a few of the arguments you now choose to denounce, may I be permitted to examine one or two of your propositions.

To begin where you did on August 18 (leading article), the fact that both Mao and Tito saw Soviet foreign policy in terms of a "quest for world

## At the grassroots

From the Right Reverend Robin Woods

Sir, "Grassroots mergers" figure in your headline story for August 16. May the hope be expressed that the merger of ordinary constituents within the Liberal and Social Democratic parties may be consistently encouraged? Nothing is more necessary, at present, to Parliament than a competent and united "her Majesty's" opposition on a truly democratic basis. This, the merger might well provide.

The lesson of "grassroots" opinion is important. Had the Church of England and the Methodists listened to it the two churches would have been united ten years ago to the now agreed immense benefits of both

## Commandos in Greece

From Mr Martin Gilbert

Sir, May I use the courtesy of your correspondence column to right a wrong? In a letter to his son in June, 1941, Winston Churchill wrote of 60 British soldiers who surrendered (as he expressed it) "in droves, and came out of caves with their hands up like a lot of ridiculous loons."

This comment was published in volume six of the Churchill biography, together with a footnote, for which I alone am responsible, identifying these troops as those involved in the attack on the Italian Dodecanese island of Castellorizo four months earlier. Evidence which I have now seen (and ought to have sought earlier) makes it clear that no such surrender took place on Castellorizo, and that the bravery of the unit involved, 50 Middle East Commandos, was considerable.

Whichever episode Churchill was

referring to, he could not have been referring to the Castellorizo attack, and I should like to apologize unreservedly to all those who took part in it, for the distress caused to them by an inaccurate identification.

I should add that the second in command of the Commandos at Castellorizo, Major (now Colonel) Stephen Rose, and both company commanders — Captain (now Colonel) Michael Borwick and the late Captain Kenneth Hermon — were mentioned in despatches for their services during the battle, and that their unit subsequently played a gallant part in the evacuation of Crete, being finally left behind on Crete to become prisoners-of-war for four and a half years.

Yours sincerely,  
MARTIN GILBERT,  
Merton College, Oxford,  
August 19.

Heisenberg in 1922 demonstrated the impossibility of such an ideal, and yet the acme of Western medical thinking is still the "double blind controlled study". Medical scientists need to take on board what has been apparent to many of their Nobel Prize winning colleagues — "exactness never really existed" and "consciousness matters".

The British Holistic Medical Association is holding its launching conference on September 24-25, 1983. We hope to provide a forum for further discussion of these crucial issues and create an opportunity for a serious and systematic attempt to bring about a marriage of both old and new approaches to healing. We have taken as our motto "Physician, heal thyself", and hope we can begin to redress the imbalance and current dis-ease in British medicine.

Yours sincerely,  
PATRICK C. PIETRONI (Senior Lecturer in General Practice, St Mary's Hospital Medical School),  
Chairman-elect,  
The British Holistic Medical Association,  
23 Harley House,  
Marylebone Road, NW1,  
August 15.

In this sense your statement that the Brezhnev Doctrine is an intrinsic part of Soviet foreign policy is wholly correct. Stripped of verbiage, it prevents the formation of non-communist governments in eastern Europe just as determined as the United States attempted to forbid communist regimes from taking root in the American hemisphere.

That one of the two leading Powers happens to be democratic is something to be immensely thankful for. But that does not make the other automatically guilty of aggression. Nor does it make the maintenance of a sphere of influence palatable in the one case and indefensible in the other. Four months from 1984 the police state happens to be the norm, not the exception.

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN THOMAS,  
Principal Lecturer in International Relations,  
The Polytechnic of North London,  
Holloway, N7,  
August 22.

bodies. Had grassroots conviction between Anglicans and Romans been followed after the happy and significant papal visit, we should already be enjoying some fruits of Christian unity.

As it is, the political unity of Liberals and Social Democrats and the religious unity of Anglicans and others is postponed indefinitely because the leaders in each case cannot agree. How long is this impasse in the common life of our community to go on? When will leaders in both state and church learn the lesson?

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN WOODS,  
Torse End House,  
Tisbury,  
Gloucestershire,  
August 16.

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23 Harley House,  
Marylebone Road, NW1,  
August 15.

## Bracken-spraying on Dartmoor

From Lady Sayer

Sir, A valuable report prepared for the Council for National Parks by Dr Ian Brotherton, of Sheffield University, reveals the increasing strength of agricultural representation on national park boards and committees: this representation has risen by 50 per cent since 1979, mainly for political reasons. The result is disastrous for many national parks, including Dartmoor.

At its meeting on July 28 the Dartmoor National Park Committee accepted the recommendation of one of its subcommittees (consisting of five members, four of them farming representatives) to raise no objection to the spraying by helicopter of a toxic bracken-killer on a large area of open common, Haynes Down, on eastern Dartmoor, an area much visited by family parties on account of its famous rock stack, Bowerman's Nose, and the views from the tor above it. An unfenced road and public bridleway traverse the common, and people enjoy walking, riding and picnicking everywhere on this land.

Toxic spraying on private enclosed fields may be one thing: such operations on open access moorland, followed by time-spraying, are surely quite another. The park officials admit that the public will have to be chased off the down before, during, and in the week following bracken-spraying operations, and that "it would not be advisable to eat bilberries from the down"; after the associated liming, "bilberry would suffer and so would the small amount of heather... the botanical interest of wet areas might be reduced and lichens adversely affected."

This kind of situation will continue and worsen while farming interests are allowed to dictate policy in our national parks.

Yours faithfully,  
SYLVIA SAYER,  
Cator,  
Widcombe-in-the-Moor,  
Devon.

## Refugees' contribution

From Mr Bernard Denvir

Sir, The second leader in your issue of August 20 was a worthy and finely expressed tribute to a man of great gifts and distinction. Nikolaus Fevger is dead, and his death has diminished all of us, though his legacy remains for our delectation.

He was one of a large number of men and women who, coming to Britain as refugees in the 1930s, have made a contribution to British life and culture comparable to, but far greater than, that of the Huguenots in the seventeenth century.

Overcoming enormous obstacles, not all of which ceased to exist when they left Germany, they displayed immense courage, intellectual energy of the highest order, and a deep sense of moral probity. Yet no serious attempt has been made, either in books, on television or on radio, to assess this phenomenon as a coherent whole, to chronicle it in an accessible format, nor to record the personal reactions of those who participated in it.

The death of Sir Nikolaus is a cogent reminder that it will soon be too late to achieve at least one part of such an undertaking.

Yours &c,  
BERNARD DENVIR,  
85 Knatchbull Road, SE5.

## Truth in advertising

From Mr Basil Boothroyd

Sir, Your correspondent (August 20) reporting 10 proclaimed chemical additives in his iced bun is right to infer that the British palate has become blunted.

It's too late to do anything about that now, but he quotes the mystery ingredients in coded form, meaningless to the lay consumer. We don't even know what's doing the blunting.

Across the Atlantic, as so often, they are in the lead here. The "Orange Juice" button on the refreshment dispenser in my Cleveland, Ohio, hotel room, produced a can labelled "Imitation Citrus-Flavoured Artificially-Sweetened Dietary Carbonated Beverage".

At least the American palate knows what it's getting. Yours sincerely,  
BASIL BOOTHROYD,  
Feckers,  
Church Street,  
Cuckfield,  
Sussex,  
August 22.

## Political contributions

From Mr Paul Tyler

Sir, If Mr Tebb's proposals for corporate contributions to the parties are to be truly equitable then shareholders should be given the individual right to opt out of any political levy imposed — whether voted upon or not — by their company.

Moreover, investment trust and pension fund managers should be required to poll their beneficiaries before casting a vote for a political contribution, and to facilitate a similar "contract out" arrangement for any dissenting minority.

Yours etc,  
PAUL TYLER,  
Tregrove House,  
Rilla Mill,  
Callington,  
Cornwall.

From Mrs Rae Linnett  
Sir, All I can say is that if Mr Tebbist insists on all wage earners being paid by cheque, employers will have to allow them extra time off work to join the long queues at the tills of our already understaffed national banks.

Yours faithfully,  
RAE LINNETT,  
16 Brookside,  
Cambridge.



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## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
August 24: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this afternoon opened the Thamesdown Housing Association's Elderly Persons Grouped Dwelling at Park Farm, Morriston, Swindon, where Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Wiltshire (Colonel Hugh Brassey).

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips escorted by the Vice-Chairman, Thamesdown Housing Association (Mrs B. Bennett) toured the Sheltered Development and later the Disabled Persons Unit where Her Royal Highness unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

### Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. C. Conans and Miss L. M. Fladley

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Dr G. R. V. Coombs, of Puerto Pollensa, Mallorca, and of Mrs H. M. Coombs, of Wiltford, Pewsey, Wiltshire, and Lucinda, daughter of Brigadier the Hon Anthony Findlay, of Collice House, Kinrossie, Perthshire.

Mr J. M. Fellows and Miss J. C. Cleobury

The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mrs M. E. Fellows, of Penarth, South Glamorgan, and Julia, only daughter of Dr and Mrs J. F. Cleobury, of Lower Hardens, Canterbury, Kent.

Captain N. J. Foster and Miss R. Sheldon

The engagement is announced between Nicholas Foster, Royal Artillery, elder son of Major-General and Mrs Peter Foster, The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Beth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs George Sheldon, Brough, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Mr J. P. Harvis and Miss J. C. Persey

The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr and Mrs William E. F. Harvis, of Stritham, Surrey, and Janet Celia, younger daughter of Dr Alec and Dr Joy Persey, of Long Eaton, Nottingham.

### CLARENCE HOUSE

August 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited Orkney, and in the morning visited the Pier Arts Centre at Stromness.

In the afternoon, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother inaugurated the new lighting system and attended a Service of Dedication in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall.

Her Majesty travelled in an Aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Ruth Lady Fernoy and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

A service in memory of Sir Eric Turner, Honorary Fellow of University College London and Emeritus Professor of Papyrology in London University will be held at the University Church of Christ the King, Gordon Square, London WC1, on Wednesday, October 26, 1983 at noon.

The family of Mr and Mrs Ernest Tasker, of Malin Drive, Northwich, Cheshire, wish to congratulate them on the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage on Thursday, August 25.

Mr R. T. Knight and Miss D. J. Evans

The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs T. Knight, of Filton, Bristol, and Delyth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Goronwy Evans, of Llangadog, Dyfed.

Mr C. Lowry and Miss S. J. Mayle

The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr and Dr J. S. Lowry, of 1 Kenton Road, Hove, and Sara Jane, eldest daughter of the late Colonel J. A. M. Rice-Evans and Dr E. I. Rice-Evans, of Dan y Castell, Crickhowell, Powys.

Mr G. C. Mordaunt and Miss J. M. M. Rice-Evans

The engagement is announced between Gerry, youngest son of Mr E. J. Mordaunt, and the late Mrs A. F. Mordaunt, and Jane, youngest daughter of the late Colonel J. A. M. Rice-Evans and Dr E. I. Rice-Evans, of Dan y Castell, Crickhowell, Powys.

Mr E. Peake and Miss A. V. P. Buchanan

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Peake, of Penryford, North Wales, and Virginia, daughter of the late Professor the Hon Alastair Buchanan, and Mrs Buchanan, of Brill, Buckinghamshire. The marriage will take place in New York, in September.

Mr J. D. E. Sturt and Miss A. F. Parrott

The engagement is announced between Justin, son of Mr and Mrs J. C. Sturt, of Bletchingley, Surrey, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Parrott, of Whaddon, Buckinghamshire.

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Mrs Alice Angell Everard with the Nobel Peace Prize gold medal awarded to her great-uncle, Sir Norman Angell, the Labour MP and distinguished writer, in 1933. Yesterday she presented the medal on long loan to the Imperial War Museum, London. (Photograph: John Manning)

## Move to weed out indifferent colleges and crammers

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A new inspection system for the 150 private tutorial colleges and crammers, designed to reassure foreigners and to distinguish the good institutions from the less efficient, is to be launched in the next few weeks.

The new body, to be called the British Accreditation Council, is the outcome of two years' work on the part of a group set up by the British Council and chaired by Mr Brian Vale. It reflects the growing concern about fly-by-night operators who charge high fees and offer indifferent education.

Since 1978, when the Department of Education and Science stopped regular full inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate, private tutorial colleges have been unable to show that they are recognized as efficient by an authoritative body. It is intended that the new council would work in the same way as the inspectors used to.

The formal decision to establish the new council is expected on September 16 when representatives of a number of public bodies will meet. They include the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics, the Council for National Academic Awards, the Society of Education Officers, the British Council, the United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs and the Royal Society of Arts.

A representative of Her Majesty's Inspectorate is also likely to be present and there is expected to be formal recognition of the scheme in a parliamentary question.

The new council is likely to use former HMIs to carry out its inspections, which will be paid for by the colleges undergoing inspection. After the decision on September 16 to

establish the council, there will be wide consultation with colleges.

It is expected that a college will either be able to apply for accreditation with the council or that an association of colleges, such as the Conference for Independent Further Education (CIFE), would have its own inspection system approved by the council.

CIFE, with its 28 members, has a rigorous inspection system whereby colleges are inspected once every three years by former members of Her Majesty's Inspectorate. Its president is Lord Beloff and it has its own code of conduct.

One of the countries which has complained most bitterly about the fact that there is no inspection system for cramming is Nigeria, which claimed recently that British institutions were surviving solely on fees paid by unsuspecting Nigerians.

### Archaeology

## Early Fen settlement discovered

By Our Archaeology Correspondent

Archaeologists working on the edge of the Fens near Peterborough have discovered one of the earliest settled communities known in the region. An Early Neolithic occupation has been dated to about 3,000 BC in radiocarbon years, or nearly 3,800 BC in calendar years.

The site, at Etton, near Maxey, lies only a short distance from the later neolithic causewayed camp, dating to about 2,700 BC, which has been excavated over the past two years (*The Times*, November 8, 1982). The early occupation is documented by the presence of plain pottery bowls of the Grimston-Lyles Hill tradition, the first ceramic style known in the British Isles. It is also marked, according to Mr Francis Pryor, the director of the project, by the use of long thin flint blades, carefully made, and by a "very substantial ditch".

Continued work on the later site has resulted in the recovery of well preserved plant and animal remains from the ditches of the causewayed camp, including food residues baked on to the insides of pottery bowls.

The animal bones include those of lamb, which has been stewed or stripped from the bones before cooking, rather than roasted as a joint, and a bundle of pig ribs piled in one end of the ditch. Horn cores show that cattle were also present.

Willow rods show that coppicing was practiced to obtain thin sticks of constant size, and alder and poplar seem to have been treated similarly. Thin wooden rods were used to make a variety of tools, and wooden fragments were also used to make needles, gouges and scrapers for working skin and other materials.

One of the most spectacular finds has been the substantially complete handle for a polished stone axe, some 40 cm (16 in) long, with the slot for the stone blade and a knob at the top to add extra weight. A number of axe blade fragments have also been found, from distant sources including one in the Lake District.

"There is no other waterlogged causewayed camp that I know of in Britain," Mr Pryor said. "It is a unique site: while we hoped to get 25 per cent of it dug this season, we shall be lucky to have completed the excavation of 5 per cent." Mr Pryor hopes that the present cooperation between the Department of the Environment's Fenland Project and the landowners, Ternace Roadstone (Eastern), will continue so that more of the site can be investigated.

### OBITUARY

## MR P. R. C. ELLIOTT

### Original research into mass communications

Mr P. R. C. Elliott, one of the leading figures in British research into journalism and mass communications in general, died on August 18. He was 40.

Elliott was a research Fellow at the University of Leicester's Mass Communication Research Centre and in spite of his relatively short career he had established an international reputation in a field he did much to create.

Philip Ross Courtney Elliott was educated at Clifton School, Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich Civic College, and Worcester College, Oxford, where he read politics, philosophy and economics. Postgraduate work at Manchester University followed, where his research into the professions was to form the basis of his first book, *The Sociology of the Professions*.

He joined the new Mass Communications Research Centre in 1966 and rapidly gained a reputation as an energetic and original researcher. He became especially adept at applying anthropological skills and concepts to the study of mass media organizations and occupations; in 1972 he published *The Making of a Television Series* which has become a seminal study and a standard text for students in Britain and abroad.

Elliott brought a powerful and inventive intellect to bear on all his research. His later books and articles continued to explore the sociology of journalism and the mass media particularly as it related to public policy and central contemporary political issues.

In 1977 he produced a report

for Unesco, called *Reporting Northern Ireland* on the role of the media in current Ulster politics. Recently he had been working on a book analysing media coverage of the Falkland war. A book on the media and terrorism written with colleagues will be published this autumn.

As chairman of the communications studies panel of the Council for National Academic Awards he played a central role in developing this new and rapidly expanding field of study in British polytechnics. His works have been widely translated in both east and west Europe and are now used internationally by students of mass communications.

Elliott was a major creative force in a new academic field struggling to find its feet, and he did much to introduce avenues of inquiry which have since become standard. His achievements were all the more remarkable for having been accomplished against a background of severe and often enervating illness since 1971, when he contracted a rare blood condition.

Elliott was admired and liked for his positive enthusiasm for life, expressed not only among his colleagues and the students whom he taught but also in his love for sailing and in his many community and local Labour Party activities.

He was devoted to his family and his tenacity and commitment in recent years owe much to the courage and support of his second wife Wendy whom he married in 1976. She survives him, as do his first wife, Sarah, and his five children.

### SIR NIKOLAUS PEVSNER

Professor Peter Lasko writes:

Your very full account (August 19) of Sir Nikolaus Pevsner's achievements is a pleasure to read, something I have not read since.

I am only one of more than one generation of students who were inspired to study the history of art by Nikolaus's outstanding gifts as a teacher both in London at Birkbeck College and at Cambridge, where no one has been able to match his impact as Slade Professor, renewed year after year, for no less than seven years.

I can still remember the excitement of that first lecture on the history of art I ever gave to a small group of us one evening at Birkbeck in 1945. I can even remember the content - the sculpture of the West Front of Chartres - probably rather better than many lectures I have heard since.

It was clear, it was concise - and in its fertile suggestions for all that research that waited to be done, it was intellectually immensely stimulating. Once one fell under his spell, there was no other subject one could ever want to study.

For those privileged enough to attend them, the nine-hour guided tours of a cathedral - no story this, but a fact - seemed far, far shorter.

I must be voicing what so many of his students will feel at this time - an immense gratitude to the man.

W. I. S. writes:

I wonder if you might find room for a short note about the generous attitude to young talent on the part of Sir Nikolaus Pevsner in the context of your excellent comprehensive

tribute to his work and personality.

Interested in a piece of amateur research on industrial landscape in this area by a 16-year-old boy member of the Architectural Hobby I ran at the College here in Bishop's Stortford, Nikolaus Pevsner published the short illustrated piece in the prestigious *Architectural Review*, and asked to come over to see the Hobby in action and gave a free lecture to the whole school on an architectural subject of general interest. A student, which none of those present, on the occasion (23 years ago), staff or boys, are likely to forget.

Mr Joseph Eric Smith, CBE, who was headmaster of Yew Tree School, Manchester, for seven years from 1947 and then headmaster of Sheldon Heath School, Birmingham from 1955 to 1971 died on August 19.

Born in 1910, Smith was educated at Bradford Grammar School and Queen's College, Oxford. In the Second World War he was a flight-lieutenant in the RAFVR Education Service.

Lady Raikes, widow of Admiral Sir Robert Raikes, KCB, CVO, DSO, and Commander-in-Chief South Atlantic in 1941, died on August 20 at the age of 95. Their son, Vice-Admiral Sir Iwan Raikes, KCB, CBE, DSC, was also Flag Officer Submarines in 1974-76.

Lady Lowe, who died on August 14 at the age of 73, was the widow of the late Sir David Lowe, CBE, Chairman of Elvington Estates Ltd. She was Katherine Cecile Jane, daughter of Roderick Ross, CVO, CBE.

## 'Smile' order at carnival

By Nicholas Thimmes

Carnival will be on the streets of Nottingham Hill, London, again this weekend, with police officers under orders to smile, and be cheerful.

Grants from the Commission for Racial Equality and the Greater London Council have given the carnival and art committee permanent premises and a small staff. Both the organizers and the police say cooperation in the run-up to the carnival has been good.

Police numbers this year will be down again on last year's when more than 11,000 officers were on the streets or in reserve for the two-day event. This year it is expected to attract over 200,000 people on Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday.

The police approach to the event is much the same as before, tailoring the number of officers on the streets to the size of the crowds. Deputy Assistant Commissioner John Cracknell, who is in charge of the operation, said the police would act swiftly to deal with running

gangs of youths who in the past have swept through the crowds picking pockets and robbing.

The event, which attracts the biggest crowds on to London's streets during the year, has become increasingly troublesome in recent years although last year there was an increase in thefts and pickpocketing.

Control of the event has been moved from Scotland Yard to area level, and Deputy Assistant Commissioner Cracknell said the long-term aim was to return control to the local police commander - something the carnival committee has been urging on the police for some years.

"That will not happen in the short-term because of the sheer numbers of police and public involved," Mr Cracknell said, before tailoring the number of officers on the streets to the size of the crowds. Deputy Assistant Commissioner John Cracknell, who is in charge of the operation, said the police would act swiftly to deal with running

### Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):  
Chapman, Mr Anthony Charles, of Bodleigh, Salterton, Devon, chartered patent agent, £228,375  
Geddes of Epsom, Baron, of Framfield, East Sussex, general secretary of the Union of Post Office Workers 1944-57, £23,335  
Geddes of Epsom, Lady, his wife, £19,157  
Ives, Mrs Elsie Mary, of Leeds, West Yorkshire, £337,894  
Kissner, Mrs Barbara Moncreaf, of Kingston Hill, Surrey, £201,127  
Lewis, Lieutenant-Colonel, Peter, of Thurston, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, £448,817  
Parker, Mr Graham Lang, of Credenhill, Hampshire, £436,680

Redfern, Mr Fred, of Flagg, Dorsetshire, £270,287  
Jackson, Mr Arthur Frank, of Chardwick, Ford, Hampshire, £203,951  
Marson, Mr Sydney, of Coventry ophthalmic optician, £253,454  
Metcalfe, Mrs Ellen, of Lancaster, £597,100  
Mills, Mr Walter Albert, of Newton le Willows, Merseyside, book-maker, £249,120  
Moore, Mrs Anne, of Hamley, Hampshire, £204,817  
Somers, Mr William, of Coddington, Nottinghamshire, architect and surveyor, £368,733  
Sneath, Mr Edmund Lawrence, of Uffington, Stamford, Lincolnshire, £351,420

## HAWKINS AND TIPSON plc

Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Lloyds Bank Plc as Registrar

All documents for registration and correspondence should in future be sent to the address below.

Company Secretary  
G. H. TAYLOR



Lloyds Bank Plc,  
Registrar's Department,  
Goring-by-Sea,  
Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA.  
Telephone: Worthing 502541  
(STD code 0903)

Princess Michael of Kent at her home in Stroud, Gloucestershire, with two 12-week-old brown Burmese kittens, replacements for her pet, Kitty, who was knocked down and killed three weeks ago.

### Science report

## Phenomenon of rising US teenage pregnancy rate

By Bill Johnstone

Nearly \$2m (£1.3m) has been granted by the Ford Foundation in the United States for research into projects investigating the soaring level of teenage pregnancies in America.

According to the foundation about 1.3 million girls, between the ages of 15 and 19 become pregnant every year, which is a rate far exceeding that of other developed countries.

"In Sweden, where the level of sexual activity among teenagers is comparable, the pregnancy rate dropped from 64 to 38 per thousand from 1974 to 1980," the foundation's researchers say. In the Netherlands the rate fell from 28 to 13 per thousand from 1971 to 1979. In the United States, on the other hand, the rate rose from 95 to 111 per thousand from 1972 to 1981.

A substantial proportion of

the research into this US social phenomenon will be conducted by the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, Bank Street College of Education and the Alan Guttmacher Institute for New York and the National Academy of Sciences of Washington.

Scientists at the institute and at the academy will be involved in conducting the international research on the project.

There will be a national study on teenage pregnancy by the scientists and an international conference will be staged at the National Academy of Sciences at which the study's findings is to be discussed.

Researchers at the Guttmacher Institute, according to the brief given the scientists by the foundation "will compare adolescent birth rates in 27

developed countries, relating them to such factors as age at first intercourse, availability of contraception and abortion services, family stability, and sex education in the schools.

"The study will attempt to answer such questions as why teenage pregnancy rates are so high in the US, whether pregnancies are concentrated in certain segments of the population, and what approaches might lower the rates."

Another study on the subject, part funded by \$180,000 (£120,000) grant from the foundation is research being conducted by Dr Laurie Zabin, a research director at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. Dr Zabin has been conducting



## THE ARTS

### Holly Hill reports on the first musical hit of the Broadway season Exotic birds in a gilded cage

La Cage aux folles  
Palace, New York

*La Cage aux folles* may be about homosexuals, but emotionally it is the straightest new musical to open on Broadway in years. The show has the sleek polish and razzle-dazzle of recent Broadway musical hits, but unlike most of them backs the glitter with a heart full of, yet made more generous by, worldly experience.

Based upon Jean Poiret's long-running French play, which also inspired the film of the same name, Harvey Fierstein's book advances the thesis of his Tony-award-winning *Torch Song Trilogy* — that people of different sexual preferences live-and-let-live — with his distinctive voice and more disciplined craft. More than the film and, one presumes, Poiret's farce, the musical is a dual love story.

Owner and master of ceremonies of La Cage aux folles is St. Tropez nightspot which features a drag show, Georges (Gene Barry) has lived happily in a homosexual marriage with his star and transvestite "wife" Albin (George Hearn). They

have raised the son of Georges's one heterosexual encounter, Jean-Michel (John Weiner), who wants to marry a girl of priggish parentage and is concerned to present a traditional family image. In the madcap scramble variously to disguise, rationalize, masculinize, and finally recognize Albin, the marital and parental bonds are refreshed and deepened. On its level as a Broadway musical, this *La Cage aux folles* has some of the abiding qualities of Mary Renault's *The Last of the Wine*.

The story is framed by numbers at La Cage featuring "Les Cagelles", a chorus of 10 men in drag — just to keep the audience guessing — two women. For these extravaganzas, Theoni V. Aldredge (costumes), David Mitchell (sets) and Jules Fisher (lighting) spin their palettes with giddy abandon and come up with displays of curtains changing colour and texture at the turn of a gel and outfits ranging — in the opening number alone — from satiny capes thrown off to reveal art deco lounging pyjamas thrown off to show pink and purple sailor dresses and 12 pairs of chorine legs. In another number "Les Cagelles" are

garbed as exotic birds and, later, like sanctified daffodils got up for Ascot.

Scenes offstage at La Cage and in other locales advance the action while revealing character. In "A Little More Mascara" we watch Albin don his nightclub make-up and costume as he sings about what dressing in drag does for his self-esteem. "By rouging the other cheek... I can cope again. There's hope again". Throughout the show, the composer-lyricist Jerry Herman wittily and sensitively captures the characters and milieu. Gene Barry sings that La Cage "is slightly forties and a little new wave/You may dance with a girl who needs a shave".

There is no blockbuster title song from the creator of *Hello, Dolly* and *Mame* here. Mr. Herman has channelled his strengths into ballads, and he, Mr. Fierstein and the director Arthur Laurents know just how to use them to broadest effect. When Jean-Michel sings of his love for his girl, his heterosexual sentiments are echoed by his father's for Albin. Georges sings tellingly of Albin's mother-love and Jean-Michel signals his acceptance of that view in a reprise in front of his girl's

outraged parents. Loveliest of all is "Song of the Bird", Georges's tribute to his youthful attraction and lasting love for his partner. The show's sensational song is Albin's Act I finale, which brings the audience to its feet with the sentiment "Your life is sham/Until you can shout 'I am what I am'".

There are disappointments in the show. The meeting between the prospective in-laws drags until Albin jollies everyone with a song, and the choreography by Scott Salmon is dull. The staging of the musical numbers — with chorines riding trapezes, sliding down bars, tapping and somersaulting and can-can-ing — almost masks the unimaginative nature of the actual steps, but one longs in vain for even one number where dance is glorified. Among the compensations still unmentioned are the graceful voices and performances of George Hearn and Gene Barry, who delight with good humour, warm with dignity and touch with humanity an odd couple who could inspire the audience to rethink the whole question of who's got rhythm.

Holly Hill



Gene Barry (left) and George Hearn: delighting with humour, touching with humanity

### EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

## Seriousness imbued with all the fun of the fair

Die Zauberflöte  
Playhouse

There have been mutterings in Edinburgh about the need for the Festival to import the Hamburg State Opera's *Magic Flute* when Scottish Opera is newly possessed of a widely liked production of its own. I hope Tuesday night's performance will have settled them, for Achim Freyer's conception is as different from Jonathan Miller's as blissful idiosyncrasy is from learning, or Papageno from Sarastro, or indeed Mozart from Mozart. And this is the extraordinary thing: the same score comprehends both, and sounds as much at home in Mr Freyer's circus as ever it did in Dr Miller's library.

Played on, around and underneath a tatty canvas-coloured platform, this is a production full of stunts. Sarastro, magnificently sung by Robert Lloyd as

a late substitution, is a 20-foot giant revealed behind curtains when he has to be. So much for him. Monostatos and his cronies are blue meenies with white boots and helmets. The Queen of the Night is another figure of grotesque stationary coyness. Tamino, a boy dandy who has stepped out of a silent film romance in his smart sailor suit and gym shoes.

Best of all, Papageno is a baggy-trousered clown who comes swinging in on a rope a couple of times, and who, by the simple expedient of a carrot false nose, is rescued from all the usual sentimentality. Papageno as the common man is a character who rapidly slips into the maulin. Papageno as a clown is something else: sympathy is held at bay by nuances of alarm and scorn. So at least it is in this splendid performance by Mikael Melbye, who behind his clown make-up can sing with complete and easy naturalness.

The virtues of the production, however, go further. In the first place, it

is quite simply a stunning piece of theatre. Working as his own designer, Mr Freyer takes nothing for granted and leaves his audience with never a dull moment. But that is not necessarily a positive merit after all, he could have done the same thing with *La Traviata* or *The Flying Dutchman*. A circus presentation of *The Magic Flute*, however, seems to return it importantly to its origins in a theatre of low vulgarity, one where comedy is mixed with the crude and the dangerous.

At the same time this is a very thoughtful performance, and out of its thoughtfulness comes at the end, strangely enough, a condensation of ideas with Dr Miller. As the final pean ends, so Tamino wakes as if from a dream. The cast and chorus have been shut behind a gauze: he realizes he is excluded, and for a moment he is excluded. But then he smiles and skips off. Thank goodness, he seems to be saying, life is not like that.

But thank goodness opera performances can be. One measure of the success of Mr Freyer's production is the extent to which it has won an individual enthusiasm and corporate zip from the cast: everyone appears relaxed and released to give of his or her best, while the ensemble work is as tight as circus demands. Ridger Woblers is a Tamino who is strong, young and direct, and needs no frills. Helen Donath as Pamina similarly avoids giving star turns, though perhaps this is achieved as much by her unpleasant costume, making her look like Snow White's step-mother, as by her vocal straightforwardness.

There are also resourceful trifles of ladies and boys, and the opera is conducted with seriousness but no hint of pomposity by Christoph von Dohnányi. It will all be set in motion again tonight and on Saturday.

Paul Griffiths

221B  
Church Hill Theatre

I doubt whether the reading public would have taken Sherlock Holmes to its heart without the help of Watson, that rock-solid embodiment of bovine British decency whose friendship guarantees Holmes as a good chap, despite all the mountebank intellectual evidence to the contrary. Also, when it comes to dramatization, Watson has often proved the better actor. Hence the late Mr Read's otherwise improbable exercise of writing a one-man Baker Street play in which only Watson appears.

Set after Holmes's disappearance into the Reichenbach Falls, it introduces Watson as a lonely widower paying an elegiac trip to 221B for a last look round the old place, which is now up for sale.

Nigel Stock shuffles in proprietorially, removes the dust sheet from his favourite chair and relaxes amid the familiar clutter of Pamela Howard's set. Memories drift back as he scans *The Times* obituary, and before long he is inspecting Holmes's chemical table, fondling the Stradivarius and uncovering an Action Man-like replica of his old friend, seated at his desk. And, as he reminisces on Holmes's educational shortcomings and tendency to brag,

Watson also starts taking on a new role as the Baker Street Boswell, whose account of Holmes's cases have made him known to the world.

At this point the play hits a rock. It starts with the shared game of treating Holmes and Watson as real people with real biographies and leads you to expect a memory play. But, once the opening flourishes are over, there is nothing for memory to feed on but fiction.

Thus, with an audible gear-change, Mr Read moves from a study of their characters into a series of thumbnail re-enactments of their adventures. Doorbells ring, issuing in invisible visitors. Mr Stock gets busy turning himself into a

Spanish beauty, a Scottish housekeeper and Lestrade of the Yard; and it says much for his technique that Watson remains clearly in view throughout these transformations.

The fatal ventilator lights up for "The Speckled Band": the whole set goes into an illuminated downpour for Holmes's tryout with Moriarty, and Mr Stock is fitfully seen circling the stage with a dark lantern, and climbing over the furniture, in his escape from the Hampstead burglary.

If there is any actor alive who could pull it off, Mr Stock is the man; but apart from the indestructible appeal of the stories themselves, the enter-

prise becomes increasingly pointed. Watson originally dropped in for a private reverie; so why is he now patently putting on a show for an audience?

Jack Emery's production at least populates the stage with a sense of unseen life, and extracts some wonderful rapid timing from Mr Stock, simultaneously offering himself a cocaine needle and recoiling from it. Also, some of the original contrast between truth and fiction does survive, as in Holmes's querulous objection to the illustrations in Watson's books: "Do I look like a man who would wear a deerstalker hat?"

Irving Wardle

## Dance The mark of class

New York City Ballet  
Covent Garden

The second programme of New York City Ballet's visit to London on Tuesday introduced two further new works with one known favourite. Balanchine's *Mozartiana*, which opened the programme, is a disconcerting work, not in the least what one might expect, but it has about it the marks of greatness which should become easier to follow as we get used to the piece. The music is Tchaikovsky's Suite No 4, with its homage to the older composer, and the choreography similarly makes use of old forms, as in the opening "Pregiera", an invocation of prayer solos such as we have seen in *Coppelia*, or the Gigue, full of the boisterous scrapings and nimble cartwheels on which Massine, for instance, might have built a minor character, a waiter perhaps, in one of his comedies. But how Balanchine transforms his raw material! Tall Suzanne Farrell, with four small girls (pupils from Bush Davies School) in attendance, decorates the pious poses with the most tender grace-notes; and Jock Soto in his solo is kept bounding unpredictably about



Scintillating ease: Suzanne Farrell and Ib Andersen in *Mozartiana*

the stage from start to finish of his music, to irrepressibly joyous effect.

The longest section, the Theme and Variations, brings back Farrell, joined by the company's latest Danish star, Ib Andersen, for a duet followed by several solo pieces, an ensemble bringing in the four tall young women who have previously danced a pretty Menuet, and another duet to finish. This sequence is full of the most amazing invention,

nor enhance each other by contrast or similarity.

The music is a selection of Tchaikovsky's piano pieces written at different periods of his career, most of which will be unfamiliar to concert-goers, although some will be known to balletomanes from other contexts. The group dances seemed to me either relentlessly fussy, as in the "Dance Characteristic" for six boisterous couples, or too trivially simple, for instance another piece of

pietism where the formula is merely knees bend, arm out, solemn expression, eyes up.

Robbins's skill as a showman is more in evidence during the solos, duets and one trio, a flirtation polka for Andersen with two enchanting young women, Antonia Francheschi and Melinda Roy. Heather Watts has the best of the choreography, a solo like a muted version of the one made for Violette Verdy in *Dances at a Gathering*; but mentioning that earlier, greater example of Robbins's way with piano music only draws attention to a dependence on heavy emoting or bold final flourishes to grab applause in the present work.

Both those new works come from New York City Ballet's 1981 Tchaikovsky Festival, and the evening's final work is a legacy of their 1973 Stravinsky Festival, *Symphony in Three Movements*. In this, Balanchine's choreography gives the soloists harsh, twisted movements to match the score, and sets a large corps de ballet swirling around them in great circles.

What a pity it is that so many of the expensive seats at Covent Garden, being at or below stage level, hide the marvellous floor patterns. During this season, patrons in the balcony or amphitheatre definitely have best view. Still, the splendid dancing can be enjoyed from any angle, as also the musical performances (Robert Irving again conducting, and Jerry Zimmerman as the solo pianist).

John Percival

### South Bank Summer Music

Sinfonietta/Rattle  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

H. K. Gruber's *Charivari* is described as "an Austrian School" for orchestra, and it might have provided a pleasingly irreverent start. The performance under Simon Rattle was lively enough, but the piece's basic material, the main piece of Strauss's "Perpetuum Mobile", is, of course, scarcely

worthy of reverence. Eventually the mask of jollity slips, and although a trumpet quotation of "Wiener Blut" implies that contemporary music's normally compulsory unhappy ending might almost be avoided.

The London Sinfonietta is relatively small, yet Emanuel Ax, the soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto, K453, dominated less than might have been expected. His evident full membership of the ensemble

lent a heightened intimacy to the music. Indeed, its many shades of melancholy seemed more than usually acute.

Exactly 150 years later in the same tradition, another concerto, Berg's for violin, also benefited from the comparatively modest size of the ensemble. Curiously enough, it was the reduced body of strings (in comparison with a normal symphony orchestra) that ap-

peared to darken this score's introspection. Its "puzzle pieces" for two chamber orchestras, this derives from puzzle canons by the sixteenth-century British composer John Lloyd, and at first evokes that distant period. Soon, however, a resourcefully discontinuous, even humorous, antiphonal use is being made of the quite differently instrumented pair of orchestras.

The concert's novelty was Oliver Knussen's *Music for a*

Max Harrison

### Television

## Effective touch of affection

"I am a toucher", said Sister Antonia Brenner, explaining that everyone needed the odd pat. The sister, walking round the Mexican jail she has taken under her wing for the last five years, was as good as her word and the prisoners responded with enthusiasm. Watching and talking to the nun about her rehabilitation work was Dr Miriam Stoppard who, we were told in Yorkshire's *Where There's a Will* last night, had been able to reach the part of the Mexican prison system that countless others had failed to reach.

This Tijuana jail houses some 1,200 men and 50 women, there for misdemeanours ranging from theft to murder. The last governor's view of prison life has been rather severe and somebody had shot him. His successor had, as seemed desirable in the circumstances, different ideas. He encouraged prisoners to see their families

and even have them stay a while, believing that being locked away from society was punishment enough.

He brought in Sister Brenner to help. The prisoners move around freely, working or not, as they choose. The matronly Sister Brenner regards all as her children and her affectionate techniques and the governor's liberalism seem to work. Over the years, the number of prisoners returning has diminished. A plastic surgeon visited the prison regularly to remove unsightly scars and tattoos so that prisoners can face the world looking as well as feeling different. The sister, he confessed, had roped him in over a dinner.

Unfortunately, the programme's format, which covers several items in its short space, was deemed too sacrosanct to jettison one in the cause of a more complete picture. The

prison film was preceded by an item in which people, among them the "television personality" Paula Yates, talked about why they had dyed their hair.

Mama had dyed her blonde because she feared that otherwise she might look like Bruce Forsyth. As she talked a group of people with extraordinary scalps looked on waiting for the verbal touch of Dr Stoppard. Not all got the opportunity though a young man with a lurid head did manage to explain that it had been more so when he dyed it blue for Christmas.

This intrusion prevented Dr Stoppard from making the most of her scoop and explaining, for instance, how Sister Brenner — who it appears had an earlier career as a wife and mother of six — came to her present vocation.

Dennis Hackett

### Promenade Concert

BBCSO/Wand  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The German conductor Günter Wand on Tuesday made one of his extremely rare appearances as chief guest conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra: the rediscovery here of this remarkable musician, now over 70, will be a major benefit to the orchestra if he can be persuaded to give more concerts as cogent and impressive as this one.

White-haired, slightly hunched, Wand moved little during the Mozart "Posthorn" Serenade which filled the first half of the concert. But his body gently swayed with the rhythms, his baton crisply marked out a supple but firm pulse and the smallest whisk of the left hand had a galvanizing effect.

This was so illuminating to watch that I fear I may have heard the performance rather than the one the players played. Though there were some wiry string passages which obtruded, the wind had an excellent evening, particularly in the two concertante movements in the middle which feature pairs of oboes, flutes and bassoons: to hear such amiable music so beautifully turned was a pleasure

which even the surprisingly mellifluous chorling of the posthorn itself in the second minuet could not surpass.

In the second half there was Brahms's First Symphony, and it was clear from the first massive thwack that Wand would adopt here a quite different scale of expressiveness. But, though the baton flailed and the left hand urged on the music with passionate intensity, there was still the same fundamental economy of approach and the same firm rhythmic unanimity.

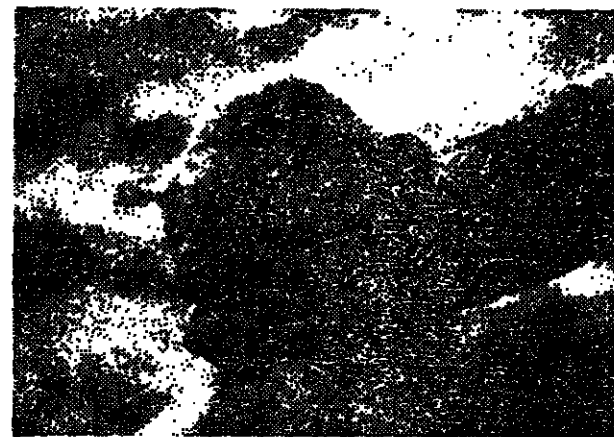
Indeed, Wand's account was chiefly notable for some astonishing decisions about tempo: a very slow coda for the first

movement, magnificently sustaining the tension, another long rallentando at the end of the third movement and — most electrifying — a last movement *Allegro* which simply and brazenly doubled the tempo of the famous Andante melody.

Brahms's own "posthorn" motif, which he first heard in Switzerland, was just one phrase among many which sprang resonantly from the orchestra. Whatever the minor untidinesses and flaws in the playing they were swept aside by the tremendous grip and well-directed power of Wand's conducting.

Nicholas Kenyon

### ADVERTISEMENT



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## Investment and Finance

City Editor  
Anthony Hilton

City Office  
200 Gray's Inn Road  
London WC1X 8EZ  
Telephone 01-837 1234

### STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 718.6 down 7.4  
FT 100: 79.63 down 0.4  
FT All Share: 454.52 down 4.55  
Bargains: 19,180  
Datastream USM Leaders  
Index: 93.27 down 0.68  
New York Dow Jones  
Average: 1194.71 up 1.22  
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones  
Index: 9139.73 up 50.15  
Hongkong Hang Seng  
Index: 928.18 down 10.98  
Amsterdam 149.5, down 2.0  
Sydney AO Index 708.4 up 14  
Frankfurt Commerzbank  
Index: 936.50 down 0.70  
Brussels General Index  
133.67 down 0.23  
Paris CAC Index 137.4 up 0.4  
Zurich SKA General 285.7 down 2.3

### CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
Sterling \$1.5190 down 1 cent  
Index 85.6 down 0.1  
DM 4.01 down 0.0150  
FF 12.0775 up 0.0375  
Yen 370.25 down 1.75  
Dollar  
Index 127.5 up 0.3  
DM 2.6350

### NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.5220  
ECU 0.568400  
SDR 0.60488

### INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rates 9%  
Finance houses base rate 10  
Discount market loans week  
fixed 9%  
3 month interbank 9%  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 9%  
3 month DM 5%  
3 month FR 15-14%

US rates:  
Bank prime rate 11.00  
Fed funds 9  
Treasury long bond 104 5/32 - 104 9/32

ECB Fixed Rate Sterling  
Export Finance Scheme IV  
Average reference rate for  
interest period July 6 to August  
2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

### GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
am \$423.75 pm \$424.  
close \$423.50-424.25 (E278.75-279.25)  
New York latest: \$424  
Kruggerand (per coin):  
\$436.25-437.75 (E287.25-288.25)  
Sovereigns (new):  
\$99.5-100.5 (E65.5-66.25)  
\*Excludes VAT

### TODAY

Interim: Bath and Portland (amended), BBA, Bensons Crisps, Blue Circle Inds., Britoil, BSR, Carpets Int., Greenwich Cable Communications, Highlands and Lowlands, House Property Co. of London, Lec Refrigeration, Needlers, Refuge Assurance, Scottish Agricultural, Scottish Inv. Trst. (third quarter), Yorkshire Chemicals.  
Finales: Dale Electrical, Hampton Trst., Immediate Business Systems, Moran Tea Holdings, New Dairies Ltd., J. Daville Gordon, Zambia Copper.  
Economic statistics: Over-time and short-term working (June). Energy trends (June). Unemployment and unfilled vacancies (July-final). Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (July-Provisional). Employment in the production industries (June-Provisional).

### ANNUAL MEETINGS

Delmar Group, Manor Royal, Crawley, W. Sussex (10.00)  
Electric & General Investment, 26 Finsbury Square, EC2 (12.30)  
Gordon & Gotch, New Gotch House, 32-38 Scrutton Street, EC2 (10.30)  
Hazelwood Foods, Empire Works, Rowditch, Derby (noon)  
James Latham, Ladbroke Wharf, Clapton, E5 (2.30)  
F. H. Lloyd, Albany Hotel, Smallbrook, Queensway, Birmingham (noon)  
London & Manchester Securities, Britannia Hotel, W1 (10.00)  
A. Monk & Co., Green Lane, Padgate, Warrington (3.00)  
Ocean Wilsons (Holdings), Great Eastern Hotel, EC2 (3.00)  
Tops Estates, Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds (noon)  
Whittington Engineering, South Street North, New Whittington, Chesterfield, Derbyshire (noon)  
John Brown is in urgent need of a capital reconstruction now that the proposed deal with Hawker Siddeley is off. But banks and institutions are fairly disenchanted with recent events and seem as uncertain about which way to turn as John Brown's management.

## Changes to accounts pave way for part-privatization

# British Nuclear Fuels sell-off in sight, says chairman

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

British Nuclear Fuels, the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, could be a candidate for partial privatization in two years, Mr. Con Alday, the chairman, said yesterday.

Speaking after BNFL had announced a £20.1m increase in pretax profits, Mr. Alday said that the company's directors were in favour of the introduction of private capital into the company's operations - and this was in sight for the first time.

Although an Act of Parliament requires the state to maintain a majority holding in BNFL, because of the sensitive nature of its nuclear activities, the Government is actively considering offering up to 49 per cent of the company to the private sector.

One long-standing obstacle to this course had been uncertainty about who would have to pick up the bill for decommissioning and other costs incurred on waste disposal contracts which BNFL inherited from other government agencies when it was incorporated in 1971.

This was resolved last month when Whitehall agreed to split the costs between the Ministry of Defence, the

Atomic Energy Authority and other bodies. As a result, for the first time BNFL's accounts have not been qualified by its accountants.

"As a board of directors we would welcome the introduction of private capital," Mr. Alday said. "I would hope that in a year or two we would be in a position for the Government to go ahead with it."

The report and accounts show that, while BNFL still has substantial debt and deferred liabilities on its balance sheet, the profitability of its business has been increasing sharply.

Last year it reported pretax profits of £54.6m, against £34.5m the year before. The profit was struck on sales of £457.5m. Dividend payments to the Government were trebled to £12m.

Exports were up by £24m to £19.5m, having doubled in the past three years.

BNFL's work during the year, the average annual radiation exposure of its workers was less than 0.5 rem, less than a tenth of the regulatory limit. Despite this record, however, there was still a "determined vocal minority" opposed to the nuclear industry, which received disproportionate publicity and encouragement from the media.

Most of the orders come from Japan under a controversial but lucrative contract which figured largely in the Windscale public inquiry some years ago. Another £600m worth of orders are for fuel enrichment.

BNFL is planning to allocate about £3,500m for capital expenditure over the next decade at its new reprocessing plant. Expenditure is expected to peak in 1986-7, Mr. Alday said.

The company is planning to cut its workforce by 15 per cent from the peak manning levels envisaged two years ago in an effort to streamline operations. It had 15,700 employees at the end of March.

Mr. Alday said in his chairman's statement that no serious nuclear incident or accident occurred in any of BNFL's works during the year. The average annual radiation exposure of its workers was less than 0.5 rem, less than a tenth of the regulatory limit. Despite this record, however, there was still a "determined vocal minority" opposed to the nuclear industry, which received disproportionate publicity and encouragement from the media.

The balance sheet shows BNFL had £145m of shareholders' funds against debts of £252.7m, deferred liabilities of £327.7m and government grants (treated as credits) of £39.1m.

In the past Whitehall has taken the view that, even if the political will was there, the problem of capital structure and the pre-1971 liabilities would push BNFL down the list of privatization candidates.

But with the Chancellor committed to stepping up the tempo of his privatization programme, BNFL might now come into the running.

If a business as sensitive as this could have private sector capital injected, there would scarcely be any part of the productive public sector immune from the possibility of privatization.

The Royal Ordnance factories have already been earmarked and there are signs that the experience of the past few years has convinced ministers that they must take a more determined approach to apparently difficult problems if they are to achieve faster progress in moving businesses to the private sector.

Lessons of oil, Page 17

## New talks open on \$90bn Brazil debt

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Brazil's bankers began key talks in New York yesterday aimed at finding a solution to the worsening liquidity problems of the world's biggest debtor. The country owes an estimated \$90bn (£59bn).

Members of the advisory group of banks handling Brazil's rescue were expected to discuss its huge cash requirements for the rest of this year and 1984.

Estimates range up to about \$10bn and commercial banks are likely to demand participation from the international agencies and governments to help meet this shortfall.

Bankers are also expected to discuss whether to release the next tranche of a \$4.4bn commercial bank loan to Brazil before the International Monetary Fund gives formal approval to a new economic programme for the country.

Only \$2.5bn has been disbursed so far and the rest has been blocked until Brazil is once again in favour with the IMF and able to draw more IMF loans.

However, with Brazil's arrears now put at \$2bn and rising, there appears to be growing support for releasing more of the \$4.4bn because it would be used to repay some of the earlier \$1.2bn bridging loan and could also be used to reduce outstanding arrears.

Brazil is believed to be close to agreement with the IMF, although the IMF's managing director, Mr. Jacques de Larosiere, is believed to have still not given approval to a new letter of intent from the Brazilians.

Mexico has now finished repaying a \$925m bridging loan to the Bank for International Settlements and a similar amount of bridging finance from the US Treasury. It is shortly to sign an agreement rescheduling \$20bn of government loans.



Smith: 'We need to know what caused the breakdown'

## JBE talks failure worries MP

By Our Financial Staff

The Labour Party's energy spokesman wants the Government to take an interest in the future of John Brown Engineering after the announcement that the proposed £30m sale of the company to Hawker Siddeley has fallen through.

Mr. John Smith, MP for Monkland East said: "I think we need to know what caused the takeover to break down. I think the Government should get involved rather than see the firm go under."

Failure of the talks has caused fears for 1,700 jobs at JBE's Clydebank works. A meeting is planned tomorrow between shop stewards and management to discuss the future of the business.

The AUEW, the main union involved, said yesterday that workers were frustrated at being kept in the dark and were concerned for the future of the plant.

John Brown said the talks with Hawker Siddeley had broken down because of a failure to agree on a future direction for JBE. A spokesman said: "We are extremely disappointed, but JBE continues to be a profitable enterprise and we are confident that it has a rosy future. Although money from the sale would have helped to offset debts, John Brown will continue to benefit from JBE's profits."

He said some redundancies would probably be necessary because of a slowdown of work on the 21 Soviet turbines.

## London Brick opts out of Istock bid

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick has decided not to renew its bid for the smaller brickmaker, Istock, Johnstone, of Leicester, despite clearance from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last week.

The company made its decision after having a £52m offer turned down by the Istock directors, it emerged yesterday.

London Brick approached Istock chairman, Mr. Paul Hyde-Thomson, at the end of last week with a bid of two shares and at least 15p in cash for every one Istock share.

This would have put a value of over 180p on each Istock share. The London Brick chairman, Mr. Jeremy Rowe, had described Istock only days previously as looking "expensive" at 160p a share.

Mr. Hyde-Thomson and two other Istock directors were also offered positions on the London Brick board as part of the total offer, which was dependent on confirmation that Istock's 1983 profits would exceed £6m.

But Istock, which has experienced a dramatic change in trading fortunes since agreeing last December to a bid worth £28m from London Brick, thought the new terms were unacceptable. It was not prepared to negotiate further on the possibility of raising slightly the cash element in the new offer.

Mr. Rowe said last night: "We went as high with our new offer as was prudent. We decided not to indulge in a contested bid because we would not have got the type of merger we had been looking for last December."

Investors Notebook, page 16

## Boots set for US trading

By Jonathan Clare

Boots is poised to become the latest British company to be traded in the US in the form of American Depositary Receipts (ADRs).

A small market has been created by Truist and Citibank but Morgan Guaranty, the biggest issuer of ADRs with about half the total market, has decided to deal in Boots ADRs.

The receipts are bought by investors from banks which hold the actual shares. Values fluctuate in line with the shares. The main advantage is that ADRs avoid stamp duty.

Morgan is believed to have been attracted by the market created by the other two banks and analysts believe that its interest marks the beginning of 8 greater US interest in Boots.

So far, all US buying of Boots has been direct.

## BPCC may clinch £18m bid today

By Andrew Cornwell

Mr. Robert Maxwell, chairman of the British Printing & Communication Corporation, hopes to announce today that he has clinched the £18m takeover of John Waddington, the Monopoly games company.

Last night he said that he was confident that BPCC would be able to make its offer unconditional today. Yesterday BPCC extended its offer terms 13 BPCC shares for every five Waddington shares until tomorrow afternoon.

At the same time Mr. Maxwell said that BPCC had won acceptance from a further 1.5 per cent of Waddington shareholders to take BPCC's holdings and acceptances to 47.3 per cent of the John Waddington equity.

In the stock market, heavy after-hours trading in Waddington shares was reported. The price rose 17p to 261p on the day. Large institutional shareholders of Waddington also reported keen interest in their holdings from buyers prepared to pay up to 280p per share.

Mr. Victor Watson, chairman of Waddington, is still adamant that the BPCC bid would fail.

## Dow Jones recovers after slide

New York (AP - Dow Jones)

Stocks recovered again yesterday after slipping back to lower territory. An earlier recovery attempt failed to make much headway.

The Dow Jones Industrial averages was up almost 2 points. It had overcome a lower start.

Declines continued to lead advances with the margin at about 7-to-5. Trading was moderate.

Dupont was 51 1/4, up 1/4; Allied Corp 50 1/8, off 3/8; International Business Machines 118 5/8, off 7/8; General Motors 67 3/8, up 3/8; Aluminia Co. of America off 3/8; Westinghouse 42 1/2, up 5/8; Exxon 38 1/4, off 1/8; and Lockheed 109 1/8, down 2 7/8.

Teletype was up 1 1/8, at 149 3/4; Colson up 1 1/4, at 37 1/4; American Cyanamid off 1/4, at 53 3/4.

## WALL STREET

Norcross yesterday unfavourably compared UBM's recent profits record with its own in its offer document for the builders' merchant company for which it has made a £64m bid.

Mr. Ken Roberts, Norcross's chairman, says that his bid gives UBM shareholders a 34 per cent increase in the value of their shares compared with the price before bid speculations led to a jump in the price. Norcross's offer price, equivalent to about 106p a share, represents an exit price earnings ratio of over 30. The price is the highest for 10 years, adds Mr. Roberts.

Mr. Roberts says that Norcross's return on capital is more than 23 per cent against less than 11 per cent for UBM and the return on sales is over 7 per cent and less than 2 per cent respectively. But UBM is likely to point out in its defence document that the historic

## Unit trust sales beat record

By Laura Bourke

Booming stock markets have encouraged investors to put money into unit trusts in a big way with more units sold during the first seven months of this year than during the whole of 1982 - itself a record year.

Sales of unit trusts to the end of July, 1983, totalled £1,336m compared with £1,158m for the whole of 1982.

North America and the Far East have proved popular with investors. North American had gross sales of £214m during the seven months, and the Far East sales of £269m.

The value of funds under management also climbed dramatically - partly as a result of booming share prices but also reflecting the big net inflow of funds from new investors. Funds under management rose from little more than £6,000m in June, 1982, to nearly £10,500m by June, 1983.

Next sales of units for July were £115m.

## Norcross bid puts high value on UBM

By Our Financial Staff

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figures are meaning less because it is already well on the way to recovery.

Norcross acknowledges that UBM will make £8m to £10m this year but says the improvement is built into the offer price.

UBM's share price yesterday was down 1p at 119p but still well above Norcross's offer price. The market expects either a higher offer from Norcross or a counter bid.

## Victor of takeover battle starts selling assets

# BTR puts Tilling HQ up for sale

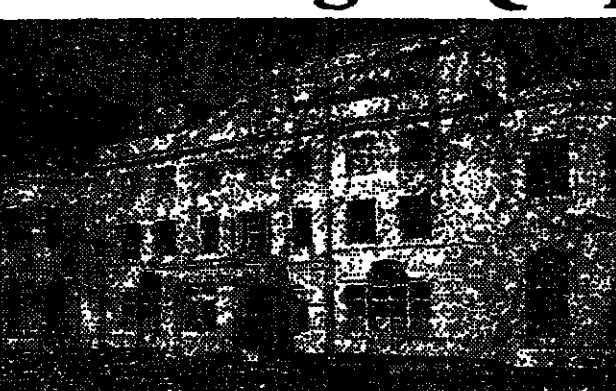
By Philip Robinson

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which won a £660m takeover battle for Thomas Tilling group two months ago, has begun to sell the group's assets.

It has put Crewe House, Tilling's eighteenth century former headquarters in Mayfair, up for sale. BTR, which operates from a small office in Westminster, is believed to want £50m for the luxurious surroundings in which Tilling decisions were once taken, and the defence of the company prepared.

Crewe House was built in 1708 by Edward Shepherd who gave his name to the nearby Shepherd Market. The house took its name from the Marquis of Crewe, the Liberal politician who bought it in 1899.

It was the scene of many Liberal Party and society functions in the early 1900s and was occupied by the Department of Propaganda in Enemy Countries during the First World War. After his appointment as British Ambassador in France, the Marquis of Crewe



Crewe House, scene of Liberal Party functions

returned to the house until Tilling bought it in 1937.

In the early 1960s the rear of the house was converted into offices and flats, but it was the company's policy to preserve the facade and character of the original building.

Despite its special features, leading West End estate agents are already doubting the price demanded by Mr. Owen Green, BTR's managing director who has a reputation for getting what he wants.

Crewe House is on the market at the wrong time. Even at the best rents of £20 per sq ft the 40,000 sq ft building would be unlikely to fetch more than £16m and £20m, estate agents said.

Mr. Green was unavailable for comment last night. The sale of Crewe House is the first public asset sale since the group gained control in an acrimonious battle this year.

For the past two months BTR directors have been travelling the world examining other Tilling assets. The conglomerate is widely known for its Cornhill Insurance, Pretty Polly Tights and Heinemann Publishing businesses.

## City Editor's Comment

# Britain's problem of baton-passing

It is one of the oldest clichés in the Treasury's canon that not too much should be read into 1 month's trade figures. The same applies to a lesser extent to a single quarter. But without extrapolating trends to awful conclusions, the weakness of British exports and the strength of imports does point up the forecasters' current dilemma - whether the UK economy will be able to sustain its recovery.

The figures clearly reflect Britain's early start in the European recovery league, spurred by consumer boom at least until the summer. It is far more problematical to conclude that British manufacturers have been slow to respond, that they might be so preoccupied with cutting back to achieve statistical productivity gains that they are not really interested in banking on growth. Yet that is the crux of the recovery question.

As the latest commentary from Glasgow's Fraser of Allander Institute points out, the two main engines of our upturn so far - consumer spending and rebuilding of stocks - "have already probably made the bulk of their contribution to the present recovery". We might even add house purchase to that list.

The consumer boom will peter out because inflation is beginning to catch up with earnings and squeeze real disposable incomes and because the savings ratio seems likely to stop falling. Stocks have now come back to their conventional relationship with output.

Soon we shall be looking for that mysterious transition from cyclical recovery into sustained growth - a process particularly mysterious in Britain because it has so often failed to take place. This is usually seen as industry taking up the baton, using its competitive edge to sell more exports and its enhanced profits and prospects to invest in expansion.

The National Institute's latest pronouncements stick to their view that, sadly, this will not happen. Logically, therefore, they point to growth falling back from this year's likely 2.5 per cent in 1984. Although now seen as subversive demand economists, the National Institute are far from alone in this gloomy prognosis, which can be had from a number of impeccably money conscious city economists.

But precedents can change. It is, after all almost unheard of for Britain to lead anyone in economic recovery, even at a much more modest level than the Americans are now achieving. It is also unusual for British firms to be becoming more competitive at this stage and for there to be three million unemployed, removing one of the usual blocks on expansion.

Therefore, there is every reason to think that British firms, despite their poor performance over the past few months, will actually be able to exploit growing export opportunities as the world economy continues to recover for some time ahead.

In the past, the financial cycle has often cut short British recoveries, aided and aggravated by sterling and trade weaknesses. Today, the financial cycle cannot be taken for granted. Confidence, particularly for firms to invest, has undoubtedly been held back in recent months by the genuine fears and predictions that the collision of US budget deficits and money supply targets would inevitably raise interest rates.

But more recent developments from Washington especially on money supply, suggested that interest rates could go either way. Also, there is undoubtedly a big hangover from the long period of inflation in the current level of real interest rates.

This is not to say that there may not be some relative cyclical downturn next year or in 1985, but it would be cruel to hard-won business confidence to confuse such, possibly minor, short-term cycles with the longer process of recovery. We should not forget the pattern of the thirties, when setbacks punctuated sustained growth amid continuing high unemployment levels.

The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated herein are true and accurate in all material respects, and that there are no other material facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement herein, whether of fact or of opinion. All the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

No application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary shares of the Company in the United Securities Market or for these securities to be admitted to listing. The Ordinary shares of the Company will be traded on an over-the-counter market conducted by Afcor Investments Limited and other companies licensed to deal in securities.

These securities are speculative and the risks associated with their purchase are described in the full offer document.

## Memcom International Holdings Plc

(Registered in England No. 1731539)

### Offer for Sale of

1,920,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each at 81p per share

by AFCOR INVESTMENTS LIMITED

### SHARE CAPITAL

Issued and to be issued fully paid  
£465,000

Authorised  
£1,000,000 in 10,000,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each

465,000 of the authorised but unissued Ordinary shares of the Company have been reserved for issue on the exercise of warrants and options outstanding.

The Directors are aware that firm applications will be made for 600,000 Ordinary shares which will be allotted in full.

Memcom is now one of the leading companies capable of designing, supplying, implementing and servicing Electronic Filing Systems, a key area in the development of integrated office automation systems. Memcom's services range from providing advice on a consultancy basis to managing turn-key projects. Memcom is also a supplier of equipment and of proprietary software programmes.

As a result of new signed contracts awarded to the Group, many in the Middle East, and the consequently increased size of its current orders, the Group requires working capital substantially in excess of that presently available to it and an enlarged equity base which is the reason for this issue.

The Directors consider that, taking into account the net proceeds of this issue, which are estimated to amount to £1.3 million, the Group will have sufficient working capital for its present requirements.

It is the Directors' present intention to seek permission for the Company's shares to be dealt in on the Unlisted Securities Market in six to twelve months time. In the meantime, the Company's shares will be traded on an over-the-counter market conducted by Afcor and other companies licensed to deal in securities.

For the year ending 30 April, 1984, profits before taxation are forecast at not less than £810,000 and earnings per Ordinary share at 6.30p. On a forecast dividend of 3.00p, the gross yield at the Offer price of 81p is 5.3%.

Copies of the Offer for Sale Document (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered) may be obtained from:

Afcor Investments Limited,  
Licensed Dealer in Securities,  
20 Southampton Place,  
London WC1A 2BQ

Bank of Scotland,  
New Issue Department,  
3rd Floor, Broad Street House,  
55 Old Broad Street, London EC2P 2HL







Privatization - 3: Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent, on problems facing the Government

# Why rolling back the state frontiers is so tortuous

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor and former Energy Minister, has shown that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth. Yet selling off British Gas's oil assets has been a slow process with the opposition of the board and its chairman, Sir Denis Rooke, right.



take three or even four terms of office before the Government - despite the present stepping up of its privatization - can finally boast of success in its efforts (as it sees them) to bring the nationalized industries to book.

Ministers' experience in the last four years with their attempts to privatize BNOG and the British Gas corporation's oil assets has underlined that shifting from the public to the private sector is a long, complex and tortuous business, it is littered with technical,

legal and political obstacles as well as false leads and the occasional negative intervention of external circumstances.

In BNOG's case, for example, it was the oil price rises and supply uncertainties of 1979, promoted by the Iranian revolution, that played a decisive role in persuading the Cabinet that it should keep the rump of BNOG as a state oil trading company.

It they had stuck to their original impulse to abolish BNOG altogether, selling its North Sea assets en bloc to BP,

few now doubt that they would have saved an enormous amount of time and trouble but at the time nobody could foresee the present conditions of oil glut, falling prices and Opec disarray.

In the event, it was not until last year that Mr Lawson was able to get his Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act on the statute book, opening the way for the sale of Britoil and the British Gas North Sea assets. This was after ministers and officials had wasted months exploring alternative ways of privatizing the corporation, including the idea of a free hand out of BNOG bonds to all taxpayers.

As the same time, it took nearly three years before officials finally found a way of sorting out the complex legal tangle of the participation agreements between BNOG and the oil companies, which were designed to give the state access to 51 per cent of all oil produced in the North Sea.

Unravelling then was a "Promethean task", according to Mr David Howell, Mr Lawson's predecessor as energy secretary, and a man whose indecisiveness is held by many to have contributed to the slow rate of progress.

With British Gas's oil assets, on top of similar legal and contractual problems, the Government has had to contend with the unstinting opposition of the corporation's board

to the sale of either Wythch Farm or the North Sea assets.

Chairman, Sir Denis Rooke has repeatedly denied that the corporation is employing delaying tactics - but it is evident that as an unwilling seller it has not hurried things along.

This is one reason why the Department of Energy has adopted the otherwise unlikely tactic of setting up its own oil company to hold British Gas's North Sea assets. It wants to make sure that it controls the disposal itself rather than risk leaving it to the corporation.

In fact, opposition from state industry chairmen is one of the toughest obstacles the Government claims to have faced in its privatization campaign.

Even favoured chairmen such as Sir Michael Edwards at BL and Sir Robert Atkinson of British Shipbuilders have resisted attempts to sell off their profitable operations in favour of the long-term benefits of preserving integrated corporations - a perfectly understandable tactic that has nevertheless effectively delayed the privatization process.

The Government has retaliated not only by appointing sympathetic state industry chairmen such as Lord King at British Airways to hurry through the privatization process, but also (in the case of Sir Walter Marshall at the CEBG for example) by setting them

clear and publicly stated objectives of introducing private capital into their operations. How far this succeeds in clearing the logjam remains to be seen.

The legislative and technical hurdles also remain, especially now that the relatively easy privatization candidates - such as Cable & Wireless which was already operated as a Companies Act company - have, by common consent, mostly been returned to the private sector already.

Despite these constraints, the Government is clearly confident that it will be able to push through an accelerated programme of privatization in the next five years.

Apart from being four years further down the "learning curve", Mr Lawson's experience with Britoil has shown - notwithstanding the peculiarities of the sprawling state oil asset portfolio - that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth.

Rightwing advocates of further plentiful doses of privatization continue to complain about the institutional obstacles to radical change, particularly in the Civil Service.

The Institute of Directors, for example, was exercised two years ago by the fact that privatization was popular with the world at large, being held up by a few key enemies in key places.

They are concentrated not only in the Labour Party and among trade union officials but also at the "Yes Minister" level of the Civil Service and in the media, where they have an influence out of proportion to their numbers, claimed an internal memo. Even the facts, it seems, conspire.

The more radical long-term aims favoured by some rightwing ideologues such as breaking up the coal board and the

electricity industry are even further away.

According to one closely involved Whitehall official, the average lead time for preparing a corporation for privatization is between two and three years - and that is assuming it does not run into delay caused by general elections or political and technical mishaps.

The need to settle on a suitable capital structure can lead to protracted and bitter argument, as happened over Britoil, for example, while establishing suitable regulatory agencies for telecommunications or other natural monopolies such as gas and electricity can and does keep civil servants occupied for months.

In addition, the Government has to grapple with the market constraints of bringing a succession of large corporations to the stock market. Although the argument about crowding out is complex, it is clear that the British Telecom and British Airways issues will absorb more than half the funds investment institutions can spare for new equity investment over the next three to four years.

After Britoil and Amersham, ministers are acutely sensitive to the need to get the timing and pricing of issues right, although with the election out of the way this may be something that they can afford to treat with greater aplomb.

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## Financial notebook

### Identity crisis of index-linked gilts

A secure, long-term investment is all very well and good for those seeking such protection, but for market operators interested primarily in a quick return the attraction will be rather less. So it is with index-linked gilts. Their performance over the two years since they were launched has prompted the abundant City cynics to suggest that the absence of a bull market to date means the absence of one in the future. Index-linking is dismissed as a failure.

Leaving aside for the moment the long-term argument, it must be true that a market which has not generated significant profits for traders is also likely to be a market which has won few friends among genuine investors. Last year, of course, was an annus mirabilis in the conventional gilt market, where the crafty enough to have bought low dated issues at the beginning of the year made a 50 per cent profit.

Index-linked gilts, by contrast, have languished since Sir Geoffrey Howe extended their favours to the populace at large in his 1982 Budget. The falling interest rates and declining inflation which enthused the conventional market were had for stocks whose raison d'être was protection against inflationary ravages. It has not been, therefore, the fault of index-linking as such that profits in that market have been scarce.

But it does not follow that profits will always be hard to make in the index-linked market. Attention is frequently directed towards nominal interest rates, but that begs the question of how the market sees index-linked stock. Should an index-linked security be regarded as a taxed interest stock, or should it be compared with other investments which are supposed to retain their real capital value (property and gold are cited, somewhat dubiously)?

Obviously, index-linked gilts have qualities which set them apart from conventional government stock. Not only is the real value of the capital guaranteed, but the interest rate is real to the extent that it is tied to the inflation-adjusted capital value of the bond. What matters, however, is the implication that a real gilt return should be compared

with real interest rates, expressed as the long term nominal interest rate minus anticipated inflation.

Such rates, it can be argued, reflect the course of the real economy, whereas the nominal interest rates which set conventional gilt prices are chiefly at the moment a response to monetary phenomena. On the evidence of the past few months real long term interest rates are drifting upwards.

The circle is completed by the almost obsessive concern demonstrated by markets round the world for the state of the American money supply and Federal budget. A rise in nominal interest rates was expected for months and that specifically would be bad for all fixed interest securities. But what is important for index-linked securities is the relationship between the real interest rates and the redemption yield offered by the stock.

On the assumption of inflation running at 7 per cent redemption yields on the nine index-linked stocks in issue range from around 4 per cent for the 2 per cent L.L. 1988 to 5 per cent for the 2½ per cent L.L. 2016 yields on stocks due for redemption at the turn of the century are around £3.25. All other things being equal, the price of index-linked stock should start to go up when real long term interest rates fall towards these yields.

The catch, however, is that real rates may be declining, because nominal rates are also on the way down, in which case conventional gilt prices should rise with index-linked prices.

But there are two major differences: nominal rates and real rates will not move with equal speed if they are not responding to the same impulses; and index-linked gilts have shown themselves in their brief history to be much more volatile.

A bull market in index-linked stocks is, therefore, possible, but the complexities are such that the genuine long term investor might do as well to sit tight. Index-linked gilts are certainly gilt-edged in the sense that the capital is guaranteed by the Government, but in other respects they behave rather differently.

Michael Prest

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Cricket: Essex gain momentum while Middlesex again flag

Gooch and McEwan in no mood to waste fine work of Essex bowlers

By Peter Ball  
COLCHESTER: Essex with six first innings wickets in hand, lead Worcestershire by 180 runs.

Essex's charge at the top of the county championship continues to gain momentum. Yesterday the pattern of their second match of the Colchester festival week followed that of the first almost irresistibly, as they had again taken a stranglehold by the end of the first day.

Even the main characters were the same. Phillip took six wickets as he and Lever bowled unchanged to skittle Worcestershire out for 84. In the evening it was McEwan's turn as he reached an unbeaten century, his eighth of the season, almost nonchalantly savaging the bowling in partnership with Gooch.

They ensured that the advantage their bowlers had given them would not be wasted. Worcestershire's problems began the moment they lost the wicket of their captain, who, under heavy cloud, the sultry, hazy atmosphere providing perfect conditions for the swing of Lever and Phillip, who, in their current mood, do not need much help.

Scott was dropped twice, amid much playing and missing, but just as the bowlers were beginning to adopt the somewhat aggrieved, put-upon expressions to which that pes-

music race are prone, the breakthrough at last arrived in the twelfth over. With the score at 36 Phillip once again found the edge of McEwan's bat and David East's gloves proved less fallible than the hands of his colleagues.

That immediately dispelled any thoughts Gooch may have had of resting his strike bowler, and Worcestershire's torment began in earnest. Three overs and five runs later the usually obdurate Ormrod was bowled off his pads, offering no stroke. Another three overs and Patel, acting captain in the absence of the injured Neale, chopped the bowling ball on his stumps. In the same Curris edged a four through the slips at catchable height.

They were the last runs to come off the bat for five overs, during which the heart (if it can be so described) of the batting was removed. In the nineteenth over Lever at last put the jumping Scott out of his misery with a brute of a ball which pitched on middle and leg and hit the off stump.

Three next over was even more destructive, in spite of another slip catch going to ground. The hapless Curris edged again and Humphries followed suit first ball. In-chmore averted the hat-trick and Weston, who had begun almost as an underdog, put up excellent defences, at last raised the siege a

little. But with only the tail left he had little support and he was last out, inevitably edging the ball to slip, in the second over after lunch.

When Essex's innings began it coincided exactly with the arrival of the sun. It had not come to stay beyond tea, but its arrival was symbolic as Gooch moved with assurance, to his second century of the season. McEwan, who survived a lop edge to the wicketkeeper when he was 66, was even more punishing and needs only another 48 this morning to claim his 2,000 runs for the season.

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings  
M S McEwan c D East b Phillip 15  
M S Scott b Lever 23  
J Neale not out 3  
D N Patel b Phillip 24  
T S Curris c Gooch b Phillip 24  
M Weston not out 24  
D J Humphries c McEwan b Phillip 10  
D J Neale c Gooch b Phillip 10  
R M Edmond c Phillip b Phillip 8  
S P Perryman c D East b Lever 8  
A P Ormrod not out 8  
Extras (b 1, lb 2) 11  
Total (38.5 overs) 84  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36, 2-41, 3-46, 4-50, 5-50, 6-50, 7-59, 8-62, 9-78, 10-84.  
BOWLING: Lever 17-4-38, 4-10, 18-35, 3-38, 6.  
ESSEX: First Innings  
G A Gooch b Lever 103  
C Gooch b Lever 20  
B R Hards b Lever 119  
D J Neale b Lever 119  
K R Panton b Lever 119  
Extras (b 1, lb 2) 11  
Total (44.5 overs) 264  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-45, 3-226, 4-248.  
BOWLING: Lever 17-4-38, 4-10, 18-35, 3-38, 6.  
Umpires: C T Spencer and B Leadbeter.



By the right: the left-handed Barlow who hit his fourth 100 of the season.

SWIMMING

Dull and dismal day despite breaking two British records

From Athol St. Rome  
The first major surprise of the championships, came in the men's 100 metres freestyle when the Olympic and world champion, Joerg Woicie, of East Germany, tied up over the final few metres and was out-touched by nine hundredths of a second by the defending champion, Per Johansson, of Sweden.

Britain had no finalist in this event since David Lowe, the British champion, who had tied with Sergei Smirnov for the last place in the final had been defeated by 39 of a second in a swim-off. Lowe nevertheless improved his own British record to 51.32 sec. The Russian went on to take the bronze medal in the final.

Miss 100 Metres Freestyle: 1. P Johansson (SWE) 51.32, 2. Per Johansson (SWE) 51.41, 3. J. Woicie (GER) 51.42. Miss 200 Metres Freestyle: 1. S Zolotarev (USSR) 1:59.41, 2. J. Woicie (GER) 2:00.00, 3. J. Woicie (GER) 2:00.00. Miss 400 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 4:07.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 4:07.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 4:07.00. Miss 800 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 8:14.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 8:14.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 8:14.00. Miss 1500 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 16:28.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 16:28.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 16:28.00. Miss 3000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 32:56.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 32:56.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 32:56.00. Miss 5000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 54:44.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 54:44.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 54:44.00. Miss 10000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 1:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 1:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 1:10:00.00. Miss 15000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 1:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 1:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 1:25:00.00. Miss 20000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 1:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 1:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 1:40:00.00. Miss 25000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 1:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 1:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 1:55:00.00. Miss 30000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 2:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 2:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 2:10:00.00. Miss 35000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 2:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 2:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 2:25:00.00. Miss 40000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 2:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 2:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 2:40:00.00. Miss 45000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 2:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 2:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 2:55:00.00. Miss 50000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 3:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 3:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 3:10:00.00. Miss 55000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 3:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 3:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 3:25:00.00. Miss 60000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 3:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 3:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 3:40:00.00. Miss 65000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 3:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 3:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 3:55:00.00. Miss 70000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 4:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 4:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 4:10:00.00. Miss 75000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 4:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 4:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 4:25:00.00. Miss 80000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 4:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 4:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 4:40:00.00. Miss 85000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 4:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 4:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 4:55:00.00. Miss 90000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 5:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 5:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 5:10:00.00. Miss 95000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 5:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 5:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 5:25:00.00. Miss 100000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 5:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 5:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 5:40:00.00. Miss 105000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 5:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 5:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 5:55:00.00. Miss 110000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 6:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 6:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 6:10:00.00. Miss 115000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 6:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 6:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 6:25:00.00. Miss 120000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 6:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 6:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 6:40:00.00. Miss 125000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 6:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 6:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 6:55:00.00. Miss 130000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 7:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 7:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 7:10:00.00. Miss 135000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 7:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 7:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 7:25:00.00. Miss 140000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 7:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 7:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 7:40:00.00. Miss 145000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 7:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 7:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 7:55:00.00. Miss 150000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 8:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 8:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 8:10:00.00. Miss 155000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 8:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 8:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 8:25:00.00. Miss 160000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 8:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 8:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 8:40:00.00. Miss 165000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 8:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 8:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 8:55:00.00. Miss 170000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 9:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 9:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 9:10:00.00. Miss 175000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 9:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 9:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 9:25:00.00. Miss 180000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 9:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 9:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 9:40:00.00. Miss 185000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 9:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 9:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 9:55:00.00. Miss 190000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 10:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 10:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 10:10:00.00. Miss 195000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 10:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 10:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 10:25:00.00. Miss 200000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 10:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 10:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 10:40:00.00. Miss 205000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 10:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 10:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 10:55:00.00. Miss 210000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 11:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 11:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 11:10:00.00. Miss 215000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 11:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 11:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 11:25:00.00. Miss 220000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 11:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 11:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 11:40:00.00. Miss 225000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 11:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 11:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 11:55:00.00. Miss 230000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 12:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 12:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 12:10:00.00. Miss 235000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 12:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 12:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 12:25:00.00. Miss 240000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 12:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 12:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 12:40:00.00. Miss 245000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 12:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 12:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 12:55:00.00. Miss 250000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 13:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 13:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 13:10:00.00. Miss 255000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 13:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 13:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 13:25:00.00. Miss 260000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 13:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 13:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 13:40:00.00. Miss 265000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 13:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 13:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 13:55:00.00. Miss 270000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 14:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 14:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 14:10:00.00. Miss 275000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 14:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 14:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 14:25:00.00. Miss 280000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 14:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 14:40:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 14:40:00.00. Miss 285000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 14:55:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 14:55:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 14:55:00.00. Miss 290000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 15:10:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 15:10:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 15:10:00.00. Miss 295000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 15:25:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 15:25:00.00, 3. A Struss (FRG) 15:25:00.00. Miss 300000 Metres Freestyle: 1. A Struss (FRG) 15:40:00.00, 2. A Struss (FRG) 15:40:00.00, 3. 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single male, 21-35 years, must be a native-born American citizen, have a high school diploma or GED, be a U.S. resident for at least 1 year, and have a minimum 2 years of experience in a similar position. Duties include: preparing and reviewing applications, interviewing applicants, conducting background checks, and preparing offers of employment. Salary is \$15.00 per hour. For more information, contact: Mr. Robert J. Smith, Director, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, 10150 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Tel: (310) 425-2799.



## PERSONAL COLUMNS

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

## August/September Flight Availability

	Price from	Price to
Athens	£117	£117
Bangkok	£270	£270
Bombay	£270	£270
Calcutta	£270	£270
Cairo	£110	£110
Chennai	£270	£270
Colombo	£270	£270
Dhaka	£270	£270
Delhi	£270	£270
Disney	£270	£270
Frankfurt	£270	£270
Gatwick	£270	£270
Hong Kong	£270	£270
London	£270	£270
Madras	£270	£270
Mumbai	£270	£270
Nairobi	£270	£270
Paris	£270	£270
Rangoon	£270	£270
Seoul	£270	£270
Singapore	£270	£270
Tokyo	£270	£270
Yokohama	£270	£270

## VENTURA HOLIDAYS

77 SOUTH ROAD, SHEFFIELD S16 3JA  
Tel: 0742 331 100 or London 01-251 5486

## FOR SALE

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## LEGAL NOTICES

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

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## La crème de la crème

## Executive Secretary

## Middle East

## An interesting appointment is to be made

## immediately in a secure and attractive Middle East

## State. The successful applicant will be highly

## qualified and well experienced at senior level,

## accustomed to confidentiality and preferably with an

## understanding of the Middle East, its culture and







# Doe tells why he wants to stop Gaddafi

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

General Samuel Doe, the Liberian President who was this week flown by Israeli jet from the obscurity of Monrovia to the Holy Land, has announced plans for a political initiative against Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, whom he accused of plotting his assassination.

"Gaddafi is a man who would like to lead the whole continent of Africa, which is impossible to do, but he still uses his natural resources to buy arms, ammunition, and to spread explosives," he said in an interview with *The Times*.

"We will do our best politically to sabotage his operations in the region," he added.

The general said that evidence had been uncovered that the Libyan leader had inspired an assassination attempt against him in 1981, a year after he came to power in a violent coup.

He said that the ringleader, Major-General Thomas Weh-seyen, his former second in command had been found with explosives, tried and sentenced to the "due process of the law".

Later explained by an aid to mean execution by firing squad.

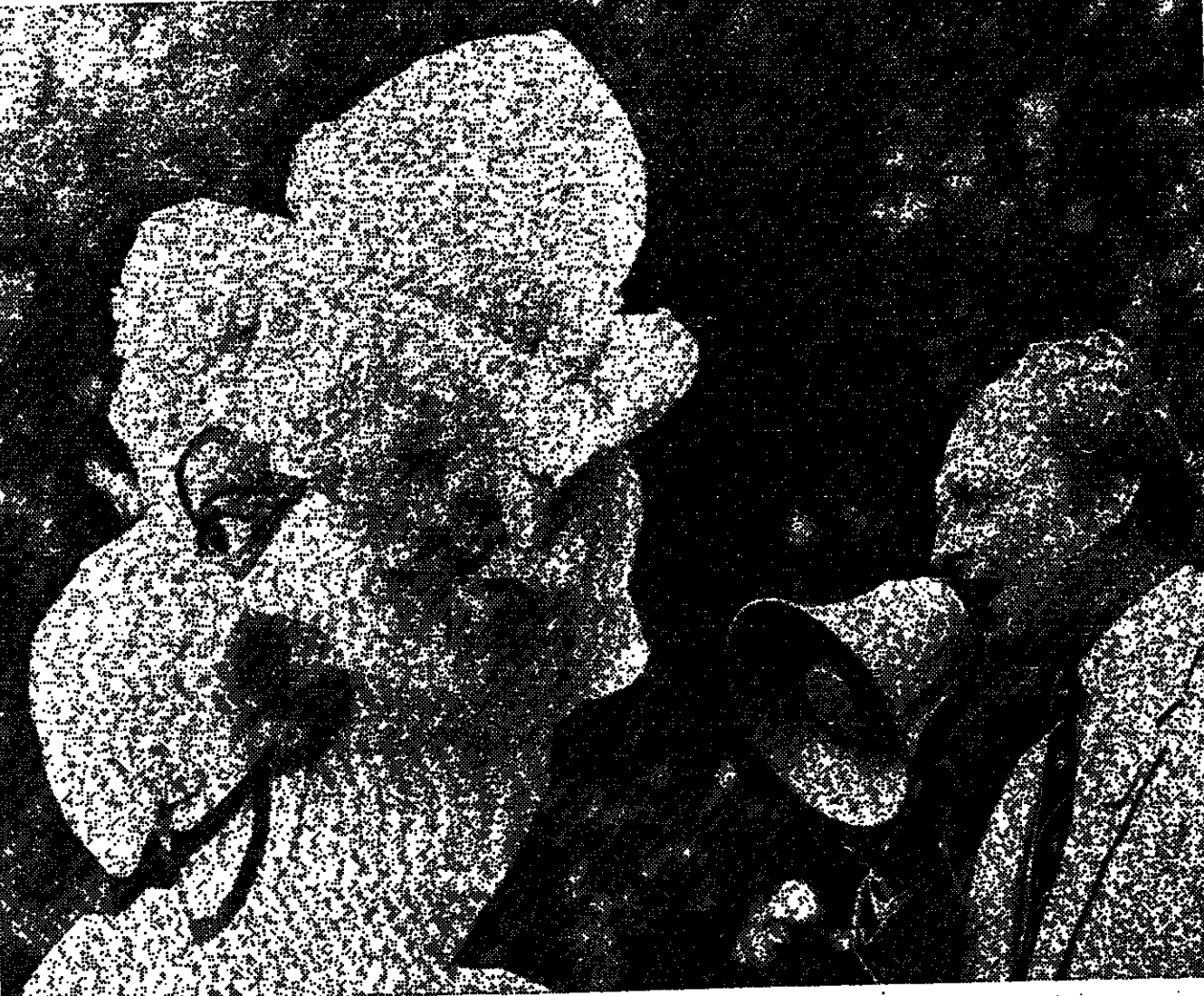


General Doe: Looking for new glasses.

The bespectacled president, at 33 still one of the youngest heads of state in the world, spoke of the dangers to the rest of Africa if the Libyan regime were to be permitted by France to succeed in partitioning Chad.

He angrily accused Colonel Gaddafi of spending large sums of money to foment unrest in vulnerable states.

Surrounded by subordinates and the opulent upholstery of the Hilton's presidential suite, the former master sergeant gave the impression of enjoying the



## Punch and Judy fight cuts in arts

The Government was accused yesterday of being "boneheaded and philistine" for cutting money to the arts, at a demonstration accompanied by a larger-than-life Punch and Judy.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the leading contender for the Labour Party leadership, photographed with Judy, said that it was part of the Conservative "conspiracy" to cut the standard of living for the majority of people.

He was addressing 450 actors and actresses who had rallied at Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park, central London, to protest about the recent 1 per cent cut in grants to the Arts Council.

The demonstrators gathered near County Hall and marched to Hyde Park, led by famous names including the actress Pamela Stables. The demonstration was organized by the Royal Court Theatre.

(Photograph: Tony Weaver)

## Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

By Our Political Correspondent

The *Sunday Times* assumed the union would back Mr Meacher, the *New Statesman* assumed the union, which voted for Mr Healey in 1981, would back Mr Hattersley.

Mr Meacher has a good track record on low pay and, coincidentally, will today extend a Westminster discussion on the issue along with Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, the union's general secretary.

Mr Hattersley continued his campaign for the leadership yesterday, with a lecture on *The Pursuit of Equality* to the British Association.

He urged the conscious promotion of a more equal society, saying: "The recent movement and subsequent rebellion of the ethnic minorities is the most dramatic example of why it is in nobody's interest for us to remain a profoundly divided nation."

Equality forum, page 4

## Mounting terror in Pakistan

Continued from page 1

Roads were blocked by protesters outside rural towns.

In Dadu and Larkana - both scenes of recent violence - councillors elected to the local municipality yesterday all resigned to protest against the continuation of the martial law.

Black coated lawyers belonging to the bar associations around the country managed to put together something approaching a national demonstration yesterday when many of them went on a four-hour strike to protest against the imposition of sentences of flogging administered to demonstrators.

The stoppage was most comprehensive in Sind, where virtually every city and district court was halted. But the most encouraging sign for those hoping to widen the protest to the rest of the country came from 500 lawyers in Lahore who downed brief cases.

## Letter from Etna

### Town lives up to volcano's example

The rebellious giant buried under Etna has stopped his snorting and nothing more menacing remains for the moment than a thin stream of grey smoke as if Etna, the giant of the legend, was lying back to enjoy a quiet cigarette.

The eruption lasted 129 days. It was dramatic more than anything else for the efforts made to tame the stream of lava by diverting its flow with explosives. Here in Castiglione di Sicilia, on the northern slopes of Etna, the failure to change radically the effects of the eruption is taken as something only to be expected.

Volcanoes are not tameable, especially Etna, which has never shown any propensity to be tamed with, and in this sense Castiglione is seeking to live up to the example of the irrepressible and unfeathered life force which at irregular intervals bursts out of Etna's crater.

Like many Sicilian mountain towns, it feels increasingly isolated by the development down on the coast. And this particular coast is a powerful rival. Its centre-piece is Taormina, which dominates the most luxurious and best-kept series of beaches in Sicily and is equal in beauty to any sea coast in the country. The finest hotels are superb.

Yet even down there the tourist season is proving a disappointment. If an inquiry were made into what people outside Sicily read most about this year concerning the island, the answer would be a twofold, and in both cases a form of violence: for the Mafia, and here in the east, the eruption of Etna.

Mafia violence is given as one of the reasons why Palermo has seen fewer visitors. But Etna must be an attraction rather than a discouragement. Extinguished or not, it is a great draw, fascinating visually as much as scientifically.

Castiglione is intent on making a name for itself despite the apparently unfavourable circumstances of the tourist business. It is one of the towns one passes through on the first part of the ascent to the highest of Europe's active volcanoes. It has no hotel and no restaurants. It is beset with the familiar problems of the south. Young people cannot find work. Many of them seek jobs in Catania or emigrate.

The population is around 5,000. The election is a difficult figure. The electoral systems are different for towns with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, and great efforts are made to prevent a fall below that total.

Theoretically, the political situation is strong because the Christian Democrats have an absolute majority. But that does not mean in effect that Mayor Enzo Grasso, the Mayor, who is now beginning his third term, has an easy time.

His answer to his town's problems is to apply what might reasonably be described as his volcanic energy to his public life. He is a publicist, his problems and his intention of avoiding what might look like an inevitable decline.

Each summer he turns one of its most beautiful squares into an open air auditorium and offers recitals by opera singers, pop groups and Sicilian musicians to persuade people to climb that high in the direction of the crater.

The climax is the evening on which Castiglione presents its prizes. A jury selects personalities felt to have distinguished themselves each year in literature, journalism and science. Signor Grasso's insistence has already established Castiglione's awards in a remarkable way for a small town.

The prize for science went to Mr Sheldan Glashow, the American physicist, Nobel Prize winner and Etna enthusiast. Signor Alberto Revi-jacques, the country's most successful novelist of the moment and a leading film director, took the narrative prize.

The evening is festive and high spirited as if participation in the award ceremony were a reward. The Mayor's upshot effort for his town's regeneration and development. He uses a phrase adopted by the present Prime Minister when speaking of himself, to "Yours Truly".

Peter Nichols

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

**Royal engagements**  
The Duke of Gloucester visits Kings Cliffe Airfield, Peterborough, to unveil a memorial to airmen who died during the Second World War and who were stationed at the airfield, 11.

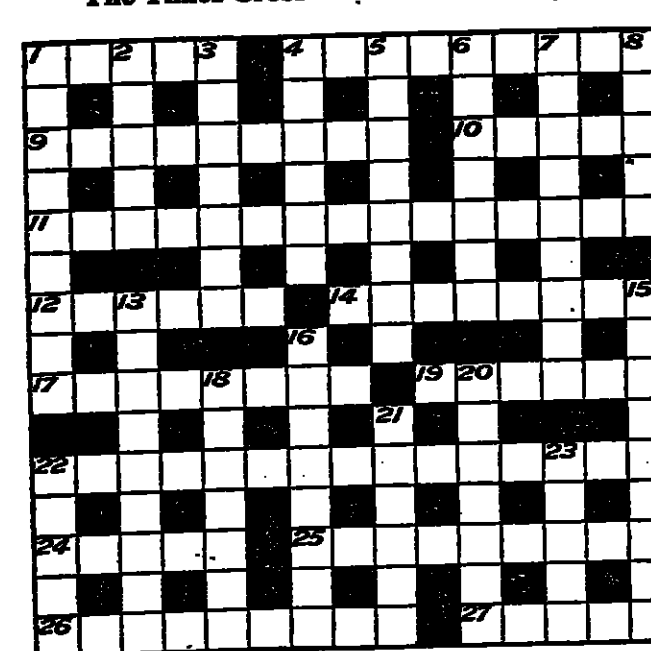
**New exhibitions**  
Take a seat chairs by British furniture makers, Chichester Workshops, Brewery Court, Chichester, Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (ends Sept 24).

**Paintings of people by Douglas Hill and landscapes by Cuthbert Bell; Halesworth Gallery, Steeple End; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6 (ends Sept 2).**

**Soweto: the patchwork of our lives; Carmarthen Museum, Aberystwyth; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.30 (ends Sept 10).**

**Work of Tumbidge Wells and District Embroiderers' Guild; Tumbidge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends Sept 8).**

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,217



- ACROSS**
- 1 Premier going round the circle in this tube (5).
  - 4 Demonstrates round about in Conservative party outside London (9).
  - 9 Nine great characters from Orange (9).
  - 18 Last in the river (5).
  - 19 Sharp noise is true maybe in strange tune by Tchaikovsky? (10,5).
  - 24 Take it the animal heard you and me (6).
  - 12 Reading undergraduates doing this (8).
  - 17 Former unruly rioter is outside (6).
  - 19 Labour see content of money-market (6).
  - 22 Royal bodyguard's regimentals meant one less to be changed (9-2-4).
  - 24 Composer rejects Cockney's comment on weather (9).
  - 25 Hurried back using the oars, reduced the gap thus (9).
  - 26 Is a Hanoverian king indeed disputed? (9).
  - 27 Gift takes Poles round America (5).
- DOWN**
- 1 Monarch and a poet, tent-makers (9).
  - 2 Von French reciprocate about a point of principle (5).
  - 3 Proposition for article on Rome riots (7).
  - 4 Hamlet's most important part (5).

### New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

*Indian Summer, Lutyens, Baker and Imperial Delhi*, by Robert Grant Irving (Yale, £2.95).

*Medieval Monasteries of Great Britain*, by Lionel Butler and Chris Given-Wilson (Michael Joseph, £2.95).

*Schumacher on Energy*, edited by Geoffrey Kirk (Abacus, £2.95).

*Scottish Short Stories 1983* (Collins, £3.95, hardback, £7.95).

*The Baroque Arsenal*, by Mary Kaldor (Abacus, £2.95).

*The Democratic Alternative: A Socialist Response to Britain's Crisis*, by Peter Hall (Penguin, £2.50).

*The People's Book of Everyday Verse, Social and Documentary Poetry 1250-1918*, edited by David Wright (Penguin, £4.95).

*The Second Michael James O'Sullivan* (Penguin, £2.95).

*Applause, Applause: The Times Book of the Year* (Penguin, £1.50).

*Women's Rights in the Workplace*, by Tess Gill and Larry Whitty (Polity, £2.95).

### Cheaper calls

British Telecom is offering a cheaper rate for direct-dialed calls during the Bank Holiday weekend. The cheap rate for inland calls starts at 6 p.m. on Friday, and for international calls at 8 p.m. on the same day.

Calls to the United States and Canada will cost £1.49 for three minutes, rather than £1.58. Calls to most of Europe will cost 99p for three minutes rather than £1.24.

Cheap rates will not apply for calls to countries in charge band 5B: Australia, New Zealand and Singapore, for example.

The cheap rates in Scotland and Northern Ireland will not apply on Monday.

Telephones can be phoned in until 10 p.m. on Friday to ensure delivery on Saturday. For delivery on Tuesday they must be phoned in by 7 p.m. on Monday.

### Anniversaries

**Birth:** Bret Harte, writer, Albany, New Jersey, 1836. Death: Sir Henry Morgan, buccannier and colonel, Jamaica, 1688; David Livingstone, explorer, 1813; Michael Faraday, physicist, Hampton Court, 1867; Friedrich Nietzsche, philosopher, Weimar, Germany, 1900; Duke of Kent, fourth son of George V and Queen Mary, was killed when his aircraft crashed near Dunbeath, Caithness, 1942.

**Scottish:** Argyle Highland Gathering, Oban, Strathclyde; extra traffic on A85 and A816. M74: extra traffic on A85 and A816. M74: extra traffic on A85 and A816. M74: extra traffic on A85 and A816.

### Weather

An anti-cyclone will build up over Britain. A trough of low pressure will reach N Scotland later.

**6am to midnight**

London, Central S, Central N, England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Cloudy at first, sunny periods later; wind NE, moderate; max temp 22 to 24C (72 to 75F).

East Angles, SE, E England: Cloudy, drizzle in places at first, sunny periods later; wind NE, moderate to strong; max temp 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).

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**Overcast for tomorrow and Saturday:** Little change in S. Becoming cooler with occasional rain in N.

**PASSAGE:** S North Sea: Wind NE, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. Straits of Dover: Wind NE, fresh or strong; sea rough or very rough. English Channel (E): Wind NE, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind variable, light sea smooth.

### Roads

London and South-East: A307: Market Place closed, part of Kingston one-way system. A602 and A505: Road works at A602 and A505: Road works at A602 and A505: Road works at A602 and A505.

Midlands: Fourth Test match at Trent Bridge, Nottingham; extra traffic on A52 Radcliffe and A166: A648: Wilford Lane, M1: one-way system between junctions 15 and 16 (Northampton). M6: One carriageway shared between junctions 10 and 11 (Walsall and Cannock). A1: One carriageway shared between Fairburn and Micklefield. A66: Repairs at Eden Bridge, Kirkby Thore, 4 miles NW of Appleby. A66: Repairs at Carrington Road, Stockport; diversion westbound.

Wales and West: M5: Lanes closed between junctions 21 and 24 (Wendover-Supper-More to Bridgewater). A38: Lanes closed on Bridgewater Road, junction of Westminster Road and Lewins Mead, Bristol. Royal Regatta at Durdham: extra traffic in town centre.

### The pound

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	1.78	1.71
Austria Sch	29.30	27.90
Belgium Fr	83.80	79.80
Canada \$	1.54	1.46
Denmark Kr	15.04	14.24
Finland Mk	8.97	8.42
France Fr	12.50	11.95
Germany DM	4.17	3.97
Greece Dr	149.00	137.00
Hongkong \$	11.70	11.10
Italy Lira	2485.00	2365.00
Japan Yen	366.00	368.00
Netherlands Gld	4.67	4.44
Norway Kr	11.69	11.12
Portugal Esc	190.00	181.00
South Africa Rd	1.95	1.80
Spain Ptas	233.75	222.75
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Netherlands Gld	4.67	4.44
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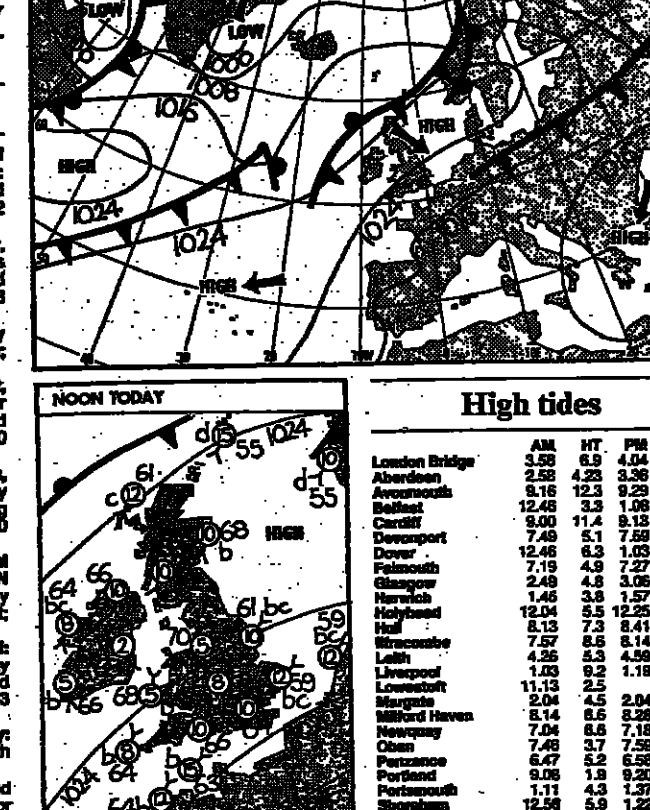
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### Weather



### High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Aberdeen	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Belfast	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Birmingham	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Bristol	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Cardiff	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Edinburgh	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Glasgow	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Harwich	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Liverpool	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
London	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Manchester	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Newcastle	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Nottingham	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Portsmouth	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Reading	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Sheffield	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Southampton	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Swansea	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Torquay	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9
Walsby-on-Haze	3.59	6.9	4.04	7.9

### Around Britain

	Sun Rain	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
St Andrews	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Aberdeen	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Belfast	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Birmingham	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Bristol	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Cardiff	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Edinburgh	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Glasgow	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Harwich	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Liverpool	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
London	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Manchester	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Newcastle	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Nottingham	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Portsmouth	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Reading	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sheffield	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Southampton	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Swansea	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Torquay	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Walsby-on-Haze	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: The Met Office. Figures are in mm.